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Report of the Economic and Social Council for the year 1998

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Fifty-third session
Supplement No. 3 (A/53/3)

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Note

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Contents

Chapter *Page*

I. Matters calling for action by the General Assembly or brought to its attention 1

II. Special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions 6

Summary conclusions by the Acting President of the Council 7

III. Session of the Council on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits 9

Summary by the President of the Council 12

IV. High-level segment

Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization 19

Ministerial communiqué of the high-level segment submitted by the President of the Council .. 20

Annex. Summary of the high-level segment by the President of the Council 23

V. Operational activities segment

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation 32

A. Advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development 32

B. Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly 33

C. Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme 34

VI. Coordination segment

Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action 37

Agreed conclusions 1998/2 37

VII. Humanitarian affairs segment

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance 49

Agreed conclusions 1998/1 49

VIII. General segment

A. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits 54

B. Coordination, programme and other questions 55

  1. Reports of coordination bodies 57

  2. Malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera 57

  3. Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 59

  4. International cooperation in the field of informatics 59

  5. Proclamation of an international year of mountains 59

  6. International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000 60

C. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B 62

D. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations 64

E. Regional cooperation 65

F. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan 67

G. Non-governmental organizations 68

H. Economic and environmental questions 70

  1. Sustainable development 71

  2. Natural resources 75

  3. Energy 75

  4. International cooperation in tax matters 75

  5. Public administration and finance 76

  6. Cartography 76

  7. Population and development 77

I. Social and human rights questions 78

  1. Advancement of women 80

  2. Social development 82

  3. Crime prevention and criminal justice 82

  4. Narcotic drugs 85

  5. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 85

  6. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination 85

  7. Human rights 86

IX. Elections, appointments, nominations and confirmations 96

X. Organizational matters 98

A. Action taken by the Council 98

B. Proceedings 98
  1. Bureau of the Council 98
  2. Agenda of the organizational session for 1998 98
  3. Basic programme of work for 1998 and 1999 99
  4. Provisional agenda for the 1998 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations 99
  5. Proclamation of international years 99
  6. Postponement of consideration of recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session 99
  7. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 100
  8. Agenda of the substantive session of 1998 100
  9. Requests by non-governmental organizations for hearings 100
  10. Organizational meeting in 1998 of the Commission on Sustainable Development ... 100
  11. Dates of sessions of subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council in 1999 100
  12. Themes for the 1999 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council 100

Annexes

I. Agendas of the organizational and resumed organizational sessions for 1998 and the substantive session of 1998 101
II. Composition of the Council and its subsidiary and related bodies 104
III. Intergovernmental organizations designated by the Council under rule 79 of the rules of procedure for participation in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of their activities 149

Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly or brought to its attention

In 1998, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolutions and decisions that call for action by the General Assembly. The relevant paragraphs of those resolutions and decisions are summarized below.

Proclamation of international years

Proclamation of international years

By resolution 1998/1, the Council recommended that the General Assembly decide that, starting from the year 1999, proposals for the proclamation of international years should be submitted directly to the Assembly for consideration and action, unless the Assembly decided to bring them to the attention of the Council for evaluation in accordance with the provisions of the guidelines for international years and anniversaries adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 35/424.

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

By its decision 1998/211, the Council took note of the request regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees contained in the annex to the note verbale dated 14 October 1997 from the Permanent Mission of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/1998/3) and recommended that the Assembly take a decision at its fifty-third session on the question of increasing the membership of the Executive Committee from fifty-three to fifty-four States.

Coordination, programme and other questions

International Year of Microcredit 2005

By resolution 1998/28, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

Coordination, programme and other questions: proclamation of an international year of mountains

Proclamation of an international year of mountains

In its resolution 1998/30, the Council recommended that the General Assembly at its fifty-third session proclaim the year 2002 as the International Year of Mountains.

Coordination, programme and other questions: international year for the culture of peace, 2000

International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World (2001–2010)

By resolution 1998/31, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000

In its resolution 1998/37, the Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 52/15, by which the Assembly proclaimed the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, requested the General Assembly to adopt a programme of action for the year 2000.

Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B

Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields

The Council adopted resolution 1998/46 and decided to bring it to the attention of the General Assembly in pursuance of paragraph 70 of annex I to Assembly resolution 50/277 and paragraphs 9 and 10 of Assembly resolution 52/12 B.

Development account

In its decision 1998/296, the Council looked forward to the outcome of the consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the utilization of the development dividend (E/1998/81) under section 34 of the programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999 by the relevant intergovernmental bodies.

Regional cooperation

Strengthening regional support for persons with disabilities into the twenty-first century

The Council requested the General Assembly to endorse its resolution 1998/4.

Economic and environmental questions

Report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

By decision 1998/283, the Council decided, subsequent to the consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871-S/1998/318) by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, to undertake substantive discussions on the implementation of the relevant recommendations at its substantive session of 1999, taking into account views expressed by Governments during the discussion of the report at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly.

Economic and environmental questions: sustainable development

Declaring the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism

In its resolution 1998/40, the Council recommended to the General Assembly that it declare the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism.

Social and human rights questions: crime prevention and criminal justice

Preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

By resolution 1998/13, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

Transnational organized crime

By resolution 1998/14, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

Mutual assistance and international cooperation in criminal matters

By resolution 1998/15, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

Social and human rights questions: human rights

Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms

In its resolution 1988/33, the Council approved the draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, as contained in the annex to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/7, and recommended it to the General Assembly for adoption at its fifty-third session.

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

By decision 1998/251, the Council, taking note of Commission of Human Rights resolution 1998/26, approved the Commission's requests to the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a detailed report on the financial and personnel resources required for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and to the General Assembly to consider the possibility of providing the resources required for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade. The Council also endorsed the Commission's recommendations to the General Assembly to request the Secretary-General to designate as Secretary-General of the World Conference the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and to declare 2001 a year of mobilization against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

By decision 1998/260, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/61, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for a further year, to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Situation of human rights in Myanmar

By decision 1998/261, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/63, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for a further year and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Situation of human rights in Nigeria

By decision 1998/262, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/64, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Nigeria for a further year and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Situation of human rights in Iraq

By decision 1998/263, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/65, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq for a further year and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Situation of human rights in the Sudan

By decision 1998/264, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/67, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan for an additional year and approved the Commission's requests to the Special Rapporteur to report to the Commission on the future need for human rights field officers, and to report his findings and recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Situation of human rights in Rwanda

By decision 1998/266, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/69, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend for a further year the mandate of the Special Representative of the Commission on the situation of human rights in Rwanda and approved the Commission's request to the Special Representative to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Situation of human rights in Afghanistan

By decision 1998/267, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/70, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan for one year and to request the Special Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Rights of the child

By decision 1998/271, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/76, endorsed the Commission's decision to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography for a further three years and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and a report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

By decision 1998/272, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/79, endorsed the Commission's decision to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for one year and to request the Special Rapporteur to report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session and to present interim reports to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

By decision 1998/273, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/80, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Representative of the Commission on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran for a further year and to request the Special Representative to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Situation of human rights in Burundi

By decision 1998/274, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/82, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi for one year and to request him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session and a report to the Commission at its fifty-fifth session.

Question of resources for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the human rights activities of the United Nations

By decision 1998/275, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/83, approved the Commission's appeal to the Council, the Secretary-General and the General Assembly to take all necessary steps, without delay, to secure for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant components of the Organization regular budget resources for the current and future bienniums that would be sufficient to permit the effective fulfilment of the responsibilities and mandates established by Member States and commensurate with the importance assigned by the Charter of the United Nations to the promotion and protection of human rights.

Chapter II

Special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions

1. In accordance with paragraph 88 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 50/227, the Council held a special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions on 18 April 1998 (4th meeting). An account of the proceedings is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1998/SR.4). The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General identifying issues relating to global financial integration and development (E/1998/9).

2. The Acting President of the Council made an introductory statement. The Secretary-General then addressed the meeting.

3. The Acting President introduced the following panellists: Philippe Maystadt, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Foreign Trade of Belgium, Chairman of the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund; and Anwar Ibrahim, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Malaysia, Chairman of the Development Committee. After the presentations by the panellists, interventions were made by Trevor Manuel, Minister of Finance of South Africa; Fathallah Oualalou, Minister of Economy and Finance of Morocco; Güneş Taner, Minister of State of Turkey; Muhammad Yaqub, Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan; Mats Karlsson, State Secretary for Development Cooperation of Sweden; and Hisashi Owada, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations. The panellists then responded to the comments made and questions raised during the dialogue.

4. The Acting President introduced the following panellists: Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development Cooperation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of the group of 10 industrialized countries; and Abdelkrim Harchaoui, Minister of Finance of Algeria, Chairman of the Group of 24. After the presentations by the panellists, interventions were made by Shankar N. Acharya, Chief Economic Adviser of the Government of India; Antonello Cabras, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of Italy; Hilde Johnson, Minister of Development Cooperation and Human Rights of Norway; Nenad Porges, Minister for the Economy of Croatia; Carolyn McAskey, Vice-President, Multilateral Programmes Branch, Canadian International Development Agency; and Celso L. N. Amorim, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations. The panellists then responded to the comments made and questions raised during the dialogue.

5. The Acting President introduced the following panellists: Mr. Fuad Bawazier, Minister of Finance of Indonesia and Chairman of the Group of 77; and James W. Michel, Chairman of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. After the presentations by the panellists, interventions were made by Jan Pronk, Minister for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands; William Schuerch, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs of the United States of America; Roberts Zile, Minister of Finance of Latvia; and Hugo Noe Pino, Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations. The panellists then responded to the comments made and questions raised during the dialogue.

6. The Acting President introduced the following panellists: Eduardo Fernández, Vice-Minister of Finance of Colombia, Chairman of the Non-Aligned Group; and Antonio Casas González, President of the Central Bank of Venezuela, Chairman of the Group of 24 for 1997/98. After the presentations by the panellists, interventions were made by S. A. Samad, Principal Secretary, Secretariat of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Mohsen Nourbakhsh,

Governor of the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran; and Wolf Preuss, Director-General for United Nations Affairs and Sector Activities, Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany. The panellists then responded to the comments made and questions raised during the dialogue.

7. Michel Camdessus, Chairman of the Executive Board and Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, and Sven Sandstrom, Managing Director of the World Bank, commented on the dialogue.

8. The Acting President circulated his concluding summary, which was subsequently issued as document E/1998/91. The text read as follows:

Summary conclusions by the Acting President of the Council

"1. Before trying to summarize the many innovative ideas that have emerged from this meeting, let me repeat how delighted we at the Economic and Social Council are that so many ministers and high-level officers participated in this meeting.

"2. Its success is testimony to the tenacious efforts of those who have worked for months to make it possible – first and foremost, the Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, the wizard of peace, as he was called by an Italian newspaper, whose invitation attracted so many distinguished guests.

"3. Next, the President of the Council, Ambassador Juan Somavía, who though unable to be with us today, conceived and followed every step in the preparations for this important encounter. May I also express my most sincere gratitude to the other members of the Bureau: Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury of Bangladesh, Ambassador Roble Olhaye of Djibouti and Ambassador Alyaksandr Sychou of Belarus, as well as Mr. Nitin Desai, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. I would like also to especially thank the members of the Council secretariat, the interpreters and support staff for making this meeting possible. They deserve commendation for their hard work on this project.

"4. One theme running through today's dialogue has been the recognition that globalization has changed the world and that the world must respond. Within this broad framework, our discussions this morning have been driven to a large extent by the repercussions of the so-called Asian crisis. I say "so-called" because it is agreed that we live in an increasingly integrated world and that turmoil anywhere poses risks to all countries around the globe. Nobody, but nobody, can ensure his or her safety from its spillover effects. There is universal recognition that global financial integration is not an option – it is a historical shift. Global financial integration offers great opportunities but also great challenges; it offers benefits but it also poses great risks.

"5. The Asian crisis has resulted in great attention being given to the sharing of risks and benefits in times of financial turmoil. The question of financial burden-sharing in times of crisis is a complicated and technical issue which will have to be addressed in other forums. However, our discussions have also highlighted the need for a sharing of benefits and risks over the longer term. Several speakers have reminded us of the contribution – that is to say, the benefits – of global financial integration to Asia's overall economic success and to the reduction in poverty over the past few decades; but there are also long-term risks – the risk of marginalization, the risk that some countries or individuals may be left behind. There must be a sharing of these long-term benefits and risks. Global financial integration should be to the benefit of all countries and all peoples; and we must all work together to reduce the risks of marginalization. I believe that the discussions this morning have demonstrated, encouragingly, a growing consensus on the means to maximize such benefits so as to reduce these potential risks.

"6. In the short term, there continue to be different points of view about the reasons for the recent crisis and the most appropriate ways of responding to it. Nevertheless, appreciation was expressed for the prompt response to the crisis by the international community, led by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. At the same time, there was universal recognition that the initial financial crisis has developed wide-ranging economic and social dimensions. There was widespread and deep concern about the adverse consequences of financial crises for vulnerable groups and the profound consequences for poverty. There was unanimity that special efforts need to be made to protect the poor and other vulnerable groups in times of crisis. The alleviation of poverty must remain our ultimate objective, both in the long run and over the short term.

"7. Our discussions this morning have demonstrated that all of us – international institutions and national Governments – still have much to learn about responding to the forces of global financial integration. While many questions remain, we agree that there is a need to strengthen the global architecture, that prevention is better than cure, and that actions are required at both the international and the national levels. The wide-ranging nature of the fallout from the crisis calls for a collective response involving all our institutions to varying degrees. A number of interesting and innovative ideas were presented, demonstrating that this meeting has provided an important opportunity to exchange views on the types of action that need to be taken by us, individually and collectively.

"8. There seems to be universal agreement that more information, greater transparency and improved monitoring are indispensable in reducing the possibility of financial crises. I believe that this meeting has demonstrated, equally, the need to develop the flows of information and transparency between our institutions. There were many references to the need for policy coherence and partnership at all levels, but particularly between our institutions. There was a consensus that greater efforts need to be made to integrate the financial, economic, social and political policies and strategies.

"9. The reason for the Economic and Social Council's originally being conceived by the fathers of the United Nations, the vision and motivation driving recent efforts to renew the economic and social sectors, and the inspiration behind today's meeting have all been focused on a single goal: to make this world a better place to live in for all the people of the planet by giving the developing countries, especially the least developed countries, a better chance to improve their well-being. We must continue to pool all our efforts to eradicate poverty and pave the way towards a future of sustainable development. Development must remain the top priority of the United Nations."

Chapter III

Session of the Council on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits

1. In accordance with its decision 1997/302 of 25 July 1997, the Council held a session on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits at its 6th to 11th meetings, held from 13 to 15 May 1998. An account of the Council's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.6-11). The Council had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits (E/1998/19).

2. At the 6th meeting, on 13 May, introductory statements were made by the President of the Council and the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

3. At the same meeting, general statements on national experiences with the coordinated and integrated implementation of the outcomes of conferences by the United Nations system were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Cyprus and Iceland), Japan, New Zealand, Romania, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Korea, Canada, Bangladesh, India, Mexico, the United States of America and Lebanon and by the observers for Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The observer for Switzerland also made a statement.

4. Also at the 6th meeting, the Director of the United Nations Development Group Office of the United Nations Development Programme made a statement, following which the Head of the Division Reporting Systems Development Cooperation Directorate of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development made a presentation on monitoring development outcomes and measuring development progress.

5. The representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

6. At the 7th meeting, on 13 May, the Council held a panel discussion on the experience of the functional commissions in implementing the guidance provided by the Council on integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits and strengthening the process.

7. Presentations were made by the Chairpersons of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Lebanon.

8. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the Chairperson of the Commission on Population and Development and the Vice-Chairman of the Group of Experts on Public Administration and Finance. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain

and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Sweden.

9. Also at the same meeting, presentations were made by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Chairman of the Commission for Social Development, the Chairman of the Statistical Commission and the Chairman of the Commission on Human Settlements. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by the representatives of Lebanon, New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the United States of America, Canada and Bangladesh.

10. At the 8th meeting, on 14 May, the Council held a panel discussion on integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits by the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

11. Presentations were made by the Chairperson of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Task Force on an Enabling Environment for Economic and Social Development, the Chairperson of the ACC Task Force on Basic Social Services for All and the Chairperson of the ACC Task Force on Full Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by the representatives of the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), China, Sweden, Canada, Lebanon, Romania, Zambia and Guyana. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization also made an intervention.

12. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the Chairperson of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality, the Chairperson of the ACC Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions and the Chairperson of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development. A statement was also made by the Secretary-General of the World Food Summit. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by the representatives of the United States of America, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Spain.

13. At the 9th meeting, on 14 May, the Council held a panel discussion on integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits by the United Nations funds and programmes and the guidance provided by the Council to their Executive Boards.

14. Presentations were made by the President of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund and the Vice-President of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the Russian Federation, Sweden, Canada, the United States of America and Romania and by the observer for Norway.

15. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund. The Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women made a statement. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by

the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Sweden, Japan, Lebanon, Canada and China and by the observers for Norway and Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China). The representative of the International Labour Organization also made an intervention.

16. Also at the same meeting, the United Nations Resident Coordinator for the Philippines made a presentation. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by the representatives of Lebanon, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Poland and Canada.

17. At the same meeting, the representative of the Women's Environment and Development Organization, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Council (Roster), made a statement.

18. At the 10th meeting, on 15 May, the Council held a panel discussion on the role of the regional commissions in the integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits.

19. Presentations were made by the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Japan, the United States of America, Lebanon, Romania, Jordan, China, the Russian Federation and Sweden and by the observers for Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the Islamic Republic of Iran and Swaziland.

20. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council: International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centres (Special), International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (General) and International Sociological Association (Roster).

21. At the 11th meeting, on 15 May, the Council held a panel discussion on the role of non-governmental organizations in the integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits.

22. Presentations were made by the following non-governmental organizations: Non-Governmental Organization Steering Committee for the Commission on Sustainable Development, United Methodist Office for the United Nations, Instituto del Tercer Mundo/Social Watch, Women's Environment and Development Organization, and the Center for Population and Family Health of the School of Public Health of Columbia University. In the course of the ensuing discussion, interventions were made and questions raised by the representatives of the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Lebanon and Zambia.

23. At the same meeting, the President of the Council presented the following summary of the session:

Summary by the President of the Council

“Introduction

“1. This session of the Economic and Social Council was of historic significance. Never in the history of the Council have so many key actors come together to have a dialogue, and to exchange views, on subject matter that drives so much of the work of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields. Chairs of the functional commissions, of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) task forces and standing committees, and of the executive boards of the funds and programmes as well as the executive heads of the funds and programmes and of the regional commissions, and representatives of civil society – all have contributed in a constructive, frank and open way to the success of this session. The session has provided a wealth of material from which the Council can draw and upon which it can build when it meets again on this subject at its substantive session of 1998 in July. Together with the report of the Secretary-General, which not only is comprehensive in scope but also contains many new ideas and proposals, the Council is now well positioned to tackle the all-important subject of conference follow-up and implementation.

“2. The Charter of the United Nations gives the Council the all-important role of providing coordination in general and of giving guidance and oversight to its subsidiary bodies in particular. For a long time, the Council has fallen short in performing this essential task and only in recent years has it begun to reassert itself in carrying out this role.

“3. This special session of the Council has given further evidence that the Council is becoming increasingly effective in carrying out its key role in ensuring that the follow-up to global conferences is well integrated, coordinated and effective. In no small way, this session is carrying forward the reform of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields as set out in General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B.

“4. The Council sits at the apex of the configuration of United Nations activities in the economic, social and related fields and as such has a crucial role to play from both a policy coordination standpoint and a management forum function. At the same time, integrating conference follow-up is a daunting task, which requires time, and in-depth examination, and the Council needs to reflect on how best to achieve it. Furthermore, the task at hand is now shifting towards implementation and monitoring of results.

“5. The breadth and depth of this task were clearly brought out in the deliberations and can be captured in the following six broad areas, namely (a) cross-cutting issues; (b) coordination and management role of the Council, in particular *vis-à-vis* its functional commissions and the executive boards of the funds and programmes; (c) inter-agency coordination; (d) country-level follow-up; (e) regional-level follow-up; and (f) monitoring. Under each of these broad areas, a wealth of detailed suggestions, proposals and recommendations have been made and these are reflected below:

“I. Cross-cutting issues

- Poverty eradication and improving the living conditions of people everywhere should be the overriding objective of the Council’s efforts to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up to conferences.

- In its role of overseeing the coordinated follow-up to conferences and summits, the Council will have to strike a proper balance between the specificity of each of the conferences and summits, which have their own specific and highly committed constituencies, and the need to address cross-cutting issues.
- It is important to maintain a balance between cross-sectoral and sectoral issues in conference follow-up. In addition, it is important that, in the coordinated follow-up, no single issue receive special attention over others. Selectivity in implementing commitments should be avoided.

"A. Resources

- In focusing on cross-cutting issues, the Council has a special advantage over its functional commissions. The Council could use the various goals and targets as its organizing principle for monitoring progress in conference implementation.
- Linking the goals and targets to the issues of financing and assistance in achieving the commitments made at the conferences would be especially important, particularly in light of the decline in official development assistance (ODA).
- The decline in resources for conference implementation needs to be addressed by the Council, as well as the effective use and results of resource utilization, based, *inter alia*, on reports by funds and programmes.

"B. Civil society

- Involvement of civil society in an effective way in the intergovernmental conference follow-up process is essential in view of the significant role that members of civil society have played in the conferences themselves as well as in their follow-up and implementation, particularly at the country level. The private sector should be involved as well, in calling upon civil society to take social concerns into account as regards the activities of its members.
- The Council should take the lead in promoting greater involvement of civil society in the work and activities of the United Nations. Panels at the Council could systematically include one representative of civil society and ways could be explored for non-governmental organizations to bring certain issues to the attention of the Council.
- Strengthening and adequately funding of the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) could also be considered.

"II. Coordination and management role of the Council

- The Council, in its management function, should provide more effective guidance to its functional commissions and particularly to the executive boards of the funds and programmes that are responsible, together with specialized agencies and all other partners, for facilitating conference implementation at the country level.

"A. Functional commissions

- As a matter of urgency, the Council needs to start a process, through a dialogue with all bureaux of functional commissions, of structuring and coordinating the preparations for forthcoming five-year reviews of conferences and of ensuring that the knowledge and expertise available in the whole system will be fully used in that process.

- Substantive interaction among commissions and with the Council needs to be further enhanced. The Council needs to consider commissions' outcomes in an integrated manner, and to identify conflicting approaches to providing guidance. It should also make greater use of substantive outcomes of its commissions in its own work.
- New developments have been occurring since the conferences took place: it would be useful for functional commissions to have an agenda item on emerging issues.
- Commissions have consistently improved their working methods, but there is scope for still further progress, in particular by refocusing general debates and expanding the interaction with civil society and experts.
- To ensure greater follow-up to commissions' outcomes, the Council could report every year on the principal outcomes of the functional commissions as regards follow-up to conferences, for transmission to funds, programmes and agencies, and broader dissemination.
- The Council should find ways of ensuring early availability of functional commissions' outcomes, so that they can be used in other forums. The Secretariat should clarify the legal status of these outcomes before the Council endorses them.
- The Secretariat should be actively involved in ensuring the coordination of functional commissions. This includes circulation of documentation and outcomes and a more proactive assistance in coordination.

"B. Bureaux of the functional commissions

- Transmitting outputs and reports is not sufficient to ensure coordination. Commissions and their bureaux need to develop a culture of using other functional commissions' outcomes in their work. Personal interaction among bureau members – including having the chair of one functional commission attend the session of another commission – is essential.
- Greater interaction between the Bureau of the Council and the bureaux of functional commissions is essential. The Bureau of the Council could meet with chairpersons of functional commissions, in January or in May, to coordinate the work of the upcoming sessions and their preparations.
- Meetings between incoming and outgoing bureaux of functional commissions are important for continuity of work. For improved sessions' preparation, more functional commissions could consider electing their bureaux at the end of their session.
- Bureaux of functional commissions need to keep all member States fully informed on sessions' preparations. A mixed composition of bureaux balanced between capital experts and members of permanent missions could help maintain the commissions' expertise while enabling greater interaction with other bureaux.

"C. Executive boards of the funds and programmes

- Linking the normative and operational parts of the work of the United Nations system remains a key challenge for conference implementation. Guidance by the Council has to become more focused and relevant to the activities of the funds and programmes, in particular in the context of the triennial policy review and agreed conclusions on conference follow-up. Enhanced interaction with executive boards of funds and programmes and with country teams could assist in this regard.
- The respective guidance roles of the Council and of the executive boards of funds and programmes should be further clarified. The Council could be the forum for high-level

dialogue on broad, cross-cutting development themes, and could give guidance to the executive boards on the follow-up to global conferences. The Council should also address cross-cutting policy issues relating to operational activities as well as to resources.

- The executive boards should concentrate on management and funding issues, with the focus mainly on downstream coordination, thereby having a role in contributing to the implementation of outcomes of the conferences at the country level.
- Reports to the Council by the executive boards should be more analytical in order to permit the Council to fulfil its coordination role. Less emphasis should be placed on process in these reports, with more space given to factual analysis.
- The executive boards should invite the Council to transmit recommendations back to the boards on ways to better interact with the Council.

"III. Inter-agency coordination

- The coordinating role of the Council and the active leadership of ACC are of utmost importance to inter-agency coordination in view of the fact that the conferences have provided the programmatic basis for such coordination in terms of joint action, analysis and implementation.
- The follow-up to global conferences often requires collaboration or joint programming, but mechanisms for funding such initiatives are not always available. Therefore, the Council should encourage the mobilization of resources for coordination purposes and joint activities. Special-purpose arrangements and round tables could be needed for funding specific programmes or themes.

"A. ACC task forces

- The ACC task forces have been particularly important in translating the conference goals to the field level and their results should be more fully disseminated.
- The resident coordinator system needs to use the task forces' outputs, in particular in preparing programming frameworks, and to disseminate them to Governments and other partners. Use by regional commissions is also important. Feedback on the use of these outputs in specific country situations is important in order to adapt, update or supplement them.
- Guidance by the Council is required to ensure that effective successor arrangements for the task forces are in place. The ACC standing machinery, and the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (CCPOQ) in particular, is taking over from these task forces and is carrying forward their results.
- Follow-up to the work of the task forces should also include the use of networks of United Nations system organizations. Such networks make use of tasks managers, enable Headquarters and country coordination, and use information technology and liaise with ACC.

"B. ACC standing committees

- ACC standing committees should pursue and enhance their efforts to support policy development based on conference outcomes and to develop guidance for country-level staff. They should also address further the issue of resource mobilization.
- Regular interaction between the inter-agency committees on women and gender equality, and on sustainable development, and the CCPOQ is important. Overall, it

is considered that strengthening the system-wide gender perspective remains an item of unfinished business of coordination.

- Communication and interaction should be enhanced between the two executive committees (the Executive Committee for Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Development Group (UNDG)), and between them and ACC standing bodies, in particular CCPOQ and the Inter-agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality (IACWGE), in order to link the broader system with the executive committees' work.

"C. ACC and the Council

- The interaction between the Council and ACC requires further improvement and ACC's activities should become more transparent and there should be a more intensive interaction between ACC and its subsidiary machinery and the Council. Regular arrangements to facilitate interaction between the Secretariat and Member States on the activities of ACC could be established.

"D. Specialized agencies

- The Council needs to strengthen its interaction with the specialized agencies, and to enhance their participation in the sessions of the Council. As agencies have their own governing structures and mandate, the Council should enhance its interaction with the specialized agencies' governing bodies as well.
- The establishment of institutional ties between funds and programmes and specialized agencies, and between them and the Council, represents a major issue.

"IV. Country-level follow-up

- Field-level implementation is ultimately the most important issue. National Governments have a key role in implementing conferences at the country level, and the United Nations system has an important role as facilitator. Besides lack of financial resources, coordination of national conference follow-up remains a problem in many countries. A major issue at the field level for the follow-up to global conferences is the availability of national capacities. Capacity-building initiatives should be promoted.
- The extent to which national-level implementation has been successful could be highlighted through having reports by the Secretariat on the various national experiences on progress in conference follow-up transmitted to the Council for its consideration.
- The resident coordinators play a crucial role in integrating the United Nations system's action to support national conference implementation. The follow-up of major United Nations conferences should be part of their mandate. The resident coordinator system should foster a broad dialogue and support the involvement of a wide range of parties in the follow-up to global conferences, including Governments, civil society and other donors. A joint situation analysis of where a country stands on conference follow-up may be carried out together with the Government. The resident coordinator system also has a role in promoting initiatives to build national capacity for conference implementation.
- The role of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) in the follow-up to global conferences has been confirmed. The involvement of the specialized agencies in the UNDAF process, within the resident coordinator system, should be enhanced in order to ensure better country-level coordination.

- Outputs of ACC task forces and ACC's standardized guidance are useful tools in enhancing the efforts already undertaken by the United Nations country teams for conference implementation. Directives for gender-mainstreaming need to be translated into practical guidelines for field staff.
- The annual reports of the resident coordinators should be used as a monitoring tool and to disseminate examples of best practices, while bearing in mind that the variety of country experiences should be reflected therein.
- Training of country teams on follow-up to global conferences should be encouraged through a wider use of the United Nations Staff College.
- Further identification of conference cross-cutting themes, and corresponding indicators, could also help national action. It would be useful to issue a report highlighting the main commitments of conferences as well as a few best practices for implementation. National handbooks on national implementation of global agendas could also be developed.
- The partnership and cooperation between the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions need to be further enhanced in conference follow-up at country level, in close consultation with the Government and with relevant-other development actors. The recently decided participation of the World Bank in two UNDAF exercises, where the relation between UNDAF and country assistance strategies will be explored, should be further encouraged.
- The implementation of conference outcomes in countries in a post-conflict situation needs to be examined. The Council could pay particular attention to implementation in countries as they move from a crisis situation to rehabilitation and long-term development.

"V. Regional-level follow-up

- The regional and subregional dimensions of the follow-up to conferences require further expansion and improvement as most attention has thus far been paid to global and country perspectives.
- The Council has a role to play in stimulating follow-up by the regional commissions, and in ensuring that the regional commissions use the functional commissions' work and address all conferences. This requires greater involvement of the regional commissions in the work of the Council on global conferences.
- Mechanisms are needed for making the results of the regional-level deliberations better known to the Council. In this regard, the Chairman of the group of regional commissions could address the Council annually.
- The activities of the regional commissions in the follow-up to conferences should be carried out on a more systematic basis. The regional commissions' interaction with other parts of the United Nations system needs to be clarified, particularly with regard to the funds and programmes.

"VI. Monitoring

- In order to effectively monitor progress in the implementation of conferences at the country level, there is an urgent need for the multilateral system to develop a coherent set of basic indicators, as well as a need to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations system and of countries to collect and analyse statistics. The United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the Development Assistance Committee of the

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD/DAC) are urged to develop and apply common indicators to the maximum extent possible.

- The Council, possibly at a future meeting of its coordination segment, could review ongoing work in the area of statistics and indicators, in order to ensure coherence and to stimulate further advances in the area of social indicators in particular.

"Conclusion

"6. In conclusion, it would appear that a number of challenges have to be confronted in order to ensure not only an effective follow-up to global conferences but also, and in particular, their implementation at the country level. Five challenges can be identified:

"(a) Ensuring horizontal integration;

"(b) Financing for the conference action plans as well as for horizontal cross-cutting follow-up efforts;

"(c) Need to address the insufficiency of relevant statistical data;

"(d) Need for more involvement of civil society;

"(e) Mainstreaming of gender and incorporation of human rights as cross-cutting themes in the follow-up process."

Chapter IV

High-level segment

Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization

1. The high-level segment was held from 6 to 8 July 1998 (12th to 18th meetings of the Council). An account of the proceedings is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.12-18). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) *World Economic and Social Survey, 1998* (E/1998/50 and Corr.1-3);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General submitting to the Economic and Social Council the report prepared by the secretariats of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization on market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization (E/1998/55).

2. At the 12th meeting, on 6 July, the Secretary-General addressed the Council.

3. At the 12th and 13th meetings, on 6 July, the Council held a policy dialogue and discussion on important developments in the world economy and international economic cooperation with the heads of the multilateral financial and trade institutions of the United Nations system. Statements were made at the 12th meeting, on 6 July, by the panellists, the Chairman of the Executive Board and Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the President of the World Bank/International Finance Corporation and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. At the 13th meeting, on 6 July, a statement was made by the Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization, also a panellist.

4. At the 15th meeting, on 7 July, the Council held a panel discussion entitled "Market access: prospective beyond the Uruguay Round". The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations moderated the discussion. The members of the Council entered into a dialogue after the presentations by the panellists, F. Bergsten, Director of the Institute for International Economics; J. Bhagwati of Columbia University; and M. Livanos Cattaui, Secretary-General of the International Chamber of Commerce.

Action taken by the Council

5. At the 18th meeting, on 8 July, the Council adopted the draft ministerial communiqué submitted by the President (E/1998/L.13). The Council decided to annex the President's summary of the high-level segment to the communiqué. The text read as follows:

Ministerial communiqué of the high-level segment submitted by the President of the Council

"We, the Ministers and Heads of Delegations participating in the high-level policy dialogue and the high-level segment of the substantive session of 1998 of the Economic and Social Council, held from 6 to 8 July 1998, having considered the theme 'Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization', have adopted the following communiqué:

"1. Fifty years ago, the multilateral trading system was established as the result of a process that had begun at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment, which was held pursuant to a resolution of the Economic and Social Council, adopted by the Council at its first session, in 1946, in which the Council called for a conference to draft a convention for the establishment of an international trade organization. Over the succeeding decades, the multilateral trading system made an important contribution to growth, employment and stability by promoting the liberalization and expansion of trade and by providing a framework for the conduct of international trade relations. Today, we reaffirm and renew our commitment to uphold and strengthen the system which contributes to the economic and social advancement of all countries and peoples.

"2. The continued marginalization of the least developed countries concerns us deeply. Arresting and reversing their marginalization, and promoting their expeditious integration into the world economy, constitute an ethical imperative for the international community. We will work together towards further enhanced market access for their exports within the context of supporting their own efforts at capacity-building. We therefore welcome the initiatives taken by the World Trade Organization in cooperation with other organizations to implement the Plan of Action for the Least Developed Countries, including through effective follow-up of the High-level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development, held in October 1997. We recognize that full implementation of the Plan of Action requires further progress towards duty-free imports from least developed countries. We also invite the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and other relevant organizations to provide enhanced technical assistance to help strengthen the supply capacity of the least developed countries and to help them take the fullest possible advantage of trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization.

"3. The Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations resulted in a more open, rule-based and predictable multilateral trading system and in significant improvements in market access conditions. Furthermore, since the establishment of the World Trade Organization, important multilateral negotiations have been concluded that have increased market access for information technology products, basic telecommunications services, and financial services. In addition, the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization, which strengthens the rule-based multilateral trading system, provides effective recourse to members with regard to defending their market access rights.

"4. However, significant non-tariff and tariff barriers and high variance, with tariff peaks and tariff escalation, still affect a notable range of products and sectors, particularly ones of export interest to developing countries, including the least developed countries. The degree of market access commitments in trade in services varies considerably. Future trade negotiations should take these issues into account with a view to securing further broad-based trade liberalization for the benefit of everyone. Resort to trade actions in the form of contingency measures, such as anti-dumping duties and countervailing duties, and of unilateral actions should be subject to increased multilateral surveillance so that they respect and are consistent with multilateral rules and obligations.

"5. Important gains in market access for developing countries' exports have been achieved through regional trading agreements which have built upon increased disciplines and tariff concessions resulting from the Uruguay Round. Bearing in mind the primacy of the multilateral trading system, and the importance of open regional economic integration, regional trade agreements should be outward-oriented and supportive of the multilateral trading system.

"6. We stress the importance of effective application by all members of the World Trade Organization of all provisions of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations,[1] taking into account the specific interests of developing countries and in this respect reiterate the need for the effective implementation of the special provisions in the multilateral trade agreements and related ministerial decisions in favour of developing country members, in particular the least developed among them. The Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) remains a major instrument for further improving market access of developing countries; there is scope and need for further improvement of the GSP, especially for the least developed countries.

"7. We recall that the second Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization decided to establish a process to ensure full and faithful implementation of existing agreements and to prepare for the third Ministerial Conference. In this regard, we stress the importance of the submission by the General Council of the World Trade Organization of recommendations regarding the work programme of the World Trade Organization, including further liberalization sufficiently broad-based to respond to the range of interests and concerns of all members of the organization within the framework of the World Trade Organization, that will enable the members to take decisions at the third Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization. The second Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization also decided that the General Council of the World Trade Organization would establish a comprehensive work programme to examine all trade-related issues relating to global electronic commerce. In this regard, we stress the importance of assisting developing countries in capacity-building and the development of their services infrastructure, in order to enable them to maximize the benefits they could derive from electronic commerce. Countries with economies in transition also need such assistance. We call upon UNCTAD, in collaboration with other organizations, to provide appropriate analytical support and technical assistance to developing countries in this area.

"8. We strongly underline the need to provide technical assistance to developing countries for capacity-building in trade negotiations and in taking fullest possible advantage of the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization. We acknowledge with appreciation the assistance given by UNCTAD to developing countries through its policy research and analysis and technical assistance and we invite UNCTAD to continue to provide such support, including assisting developing countries in formulating a positive agenda for future trade negotiations.

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[1] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

"9. We attach great importance to the diversification of African economies and increased market access for their export products. In this regard, we express our appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for recently putting forward an action-oriented agenda for the development of Africa. Continued efforts are needed to enhance market access for products of export interest to Africa and to support the African economies' efforts at diversification and building of supply capacity.

"10. We are concerned about the financial crisis afflicting a number of countries, with its serious implications for world economic and trading prospects. There is a need for improved measures to address the negative effects of the volatility of international capital flows on the international trading system and the development prospects of developing countries. Keeping all markets open and maintaining continued growth in world trade are key elements in overcoming this crisis. In this context, we reject the use of any protectionist measures. Consideration should be given to the trade financing needs of the countries affected by the crisis to enable them to import essential items. It is important that the momentum towards increased trade liberalization, particularly as regards products of interest to developing countries, be maintained, and be given attention in the work leading up to the third Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization. At a broader level, there is a need for greater coherence between the development objectives agreed to by the international community and the functioning of the international trading and financial system. To this end, we call for close cooperation among the United Nations, and multilateral trade and international financial institutions. An important step in this direction was the convening of the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, on 18 April 1998.

"11. While noting that multilateral trade agreements have contributed to security of market access for members of the World Trade Organization, we recognize that such security is not enjoyed by non-members, including those seeking accession to the organization. We emphasize the importance of attainment of the universality of the multilateral trading system and the need for government members of the World Trade Organization and relevant international organizations to provide assistance to non-members of the World Trade Organization, so as to facilitate their efforts with respect to accession in an expeditious and transparent manner on the basis of World Trade Organization-related rights and obligations. The World Trade Organization and UNCTAD are invited to provide the necessary technical assistance to these countries in this regard.

"12. We welcome the development of a collaborative and complementary relationship between UNCTAD and the World Trade Organization, which augurs well for the multilateral trading system and for effective integration therein of developing countries, including the least developed countries. We also express our appreciation to the secretariats of UNCTAD and the World Trade Organization for jointly preparing their excellent report (E/1998/55) for the high-level segment."

Annex

Summary of the high-level segment by the President of the Council

"1. The high-level segment of the substantive session of 1998 of the Economic and Social Council took place from 6 to 8 July 1998. Following opening statements by the President of the Council and by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Council held a high-level policy dialogue with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the President of the World Bank, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization on developments in the world economy. Upon conclusion of the high-level policy dialogue with the heads of the international financial institutions and the trade organizations, the Council conducted a high-level debate on the theme of 'Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization', at the closing of which the Council, for the first time in its history, adopted a ministerial communiqué.

"2. A panel discussion moderated by the Deputy-Secretary-General was held on 7 July; the panellists were Mr. F. Bergsten, Director, Institute for International Economics; J. Bhagwati, Professor, Columbia University; and Ms. M. Livanos Cattaui, Secretary-General, International Chamber of Commerce. The subject of the panel was 'Market access: perspective beyond the Uruguay Round'.

"I. Opening statements

"3. The President of the Council in his opening statement referred to the current economic crisis in Asia which had made it clear that integration into the global market could bring great benefits, but carried serious risks if not managed well. No country was able to remain insulated from the consequences of events occurring elsewhere. It was of paramount importance to develop a global rapid response capacity in which Governments and international institutions together with the private sector, trade unions and civil society organizations could cooperate to effectively forestall crises and address them expeditiously when they occurred. The current strains in the international financial and trading system served to highlight the need to orient the forces of globalization towards greater balance among the imperatives of economic growth, social equity, workers' rights, gender equality and environmental protection. This posed a global challenge to all international institutions and tested the effectiveness of the multilateral system as a whole.

"4. He stressed that by now it was abundantly clear no single international organization or country, acting individually, with its own set of policy measures and its own interpretation of events, had any meaningful chance to help steer the world towards greater economic and social stability. It was necessary to progressively develop an integrated policy outlook reflecting common objectives of the international community. It was not possible to pursue independent sectoral policies to deal with integrated, multifaceted and systemic problems. This and future policy dialogues, the President observed, provided an opportunity for the Council to help develop a shared understanding of issues and devise a broad policy orientation to address them.

"5. The Secretary-General in his statement noted that global conditions today offered unprecedented prospects for peace and security. Yet, the international community seemed ill-equipped to fully harness that tremendous potential. Tremendous wealth existed alongside chronic destitution. People around the world were torn between the hopes engendered by decades of remarkable progress and the fear of future upheavals. Those hopes and fears were global, as were the economy and markets. However, politics were local and there was a widening gap between what citizens demanded and what Governments could deliver. While there was every reason to treasure and nurture the achievements brought about by the international trading system, the Asian crisis was a reminder of how factors such as finance, economics and socio-political forces were working in tandem to shape, and, at times, shake up the world.

"6. The Secretary-General stated that for the United Nations three broad observations were paramount. First, the crisis had had its most devastating effect on the marginalization of society. It threatened to undo years of progress in alleviating poverty and advancing the rights of women. Second, developing countries were less able than their developed counterparts to withstand the fallout of the crisis. Third, interdependence among nations had an essential complement – interdependence among issues. Finance, trade, governance and social equity were intimately linked.

"7. The open, inclusive, global economy was the most promising means of widely spreading the benefits of globalization, the Secretary-General stressed. At the same time, the fear of globalization had to be taken seriously. The challenge for Governments was to show that global imperatives could coexist with local needs. Choices had to be made between the confinement to purely local points of view and the adoption of a more global perspective. One key question was whether the international community would choose to use the institutions at its disposal. There was really no choice, as it would be grievous for the international community to retreat from multilateralism.

"II. Policy dialogue

"8. The Managing Director of IMF stated that the international community must support the adjustment programmes of the countries most severely affected by the Asian crisis. It was also vital that countries with balance-of-payment surpluses recycle those surpluses in the form of untied loans and humanitarian aid to countries in the process of adjustment. As creditors, they should stand ready to grant generous terms for the restructuring of their claims and support economic recovery in Asia through new loans. Above all, those countries should keep their markets open. Countries that pursued strong, progressive trade liberalization, in the context of general economic reforms and market-oriented policies, would achieve growth and increased trade performance. For their part, industrialized countries should liberalize import restrictions. However, they should avoid replacing tariffs and non-tariff barriers with administered protection measures, such as anti-dumping restrictions.

"9. Working with the World Bank, IMF was exploring ways to accelerate public enterprise and financial sector reforms, to improve the assessment of medium-term investments needs and the capacity to absorb external financing, and to identify potential adverse social consequences of reforms. In order to make the world less prone to financial crises, the Fund's surveillance had to become more effective and the transparency of international finance had to be enhanced. IMF could play a central role in crisis prevention by encouraging members to strengthen their macroeconomic policies and financial sectors.

"10. The President of the World Bank stated that the Bank had sought to assist the countries hardest-hit by the Asian financial crisis. The crisis was not localized and issues in South-East Asia had affected all countries in different ways. The World Bank had also focused on the structural and social aspect of the crisis, with particular attention to poverty-related matters. Attempts had been made to deal with the segments of the economy most affected, including rural areas, so as to ensure provision of basic social programming that offered people a sense of hope. There could be no peace and stability without social stability and hope. Efforts were under way in the financial, judicial and regulatory systems to provide a framework essential for the success of the work of IMF. Before gaining access to markets, countries must establish a fundamental economic base, including infrastructure and a capacity to attract foreign investment. Helping countries to build such a framework was one of the essential functions of the World Bank. Also, transparency between borrower and lender countries was necessary in order to avoid the distortions that came from corruption, crime and the divergence of funds.

"11. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD stressed that the Asian crisis had hit the poor particularly hard, in terms of sharp falls in commodities and in the export prices of some goods. The recent financial crises had occurred because the Governments concerned, among others, had failed to manage their countries' integration into the capital markets. Well-calibrated national policies could help manage financial crises, limit their potential for lasting damage and re-establish economic growth. Yet, when an economic crisis became a systemic problem, action was also needed at the global level. The Asian crisis was only the latest in a string of financial crises that had disrupted the global economy since the breakdown of the Bretton Woods system. The international community still needed to learn how to manage such economic turmoil. It would be useful to conduct an honest re-evaluation of the international policy response to assess its achievements and failures. He also noted that it was much more difficult to manage integration into international capital markets than it was to achieve successful insertion into the international trading system. Developing countries should not be pushed or pressured into premature financial liberalization, as this would deny them the option of protecting their economies from international financial instability and volatile speculative capital flows.

"12. The Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization, stated that the fiftieth anniversary of the multilateral trading system six weeks before had demonstrated the virtual consensus throughout every region on the validity of open trade and economic integration under the rule of law. More and more, the ground rules provided by the World Trade Organization reached across, into and around other issues and concerns – ranging from investment and competition policy, to environmental, development, health and social policies. The various challenges needed to be faced as constituting pieces of a larger policy that demanded broader and more integrated solutions. Developing countries were increasingly represented in the world's trading system. This reflected the emergence of many of these countries as important trading powers in their own right. Perhaps most significant of all was the establishment of improved binding mechanisms for settling trade disputes. Even the smallest country could now look to the World Trade Organization in defence of its interests on the basis of shared and enforceable rules. Still, a variety of non-tariff measures continued to restrict exports from developing countries, and the fact that national and international product standards were difficult to meet led to reduced exports opportunities for least developed countries. Also, in the field of trade in services, much scope remained for further liberalization.

"13. In the ensuing exchange of the Council with the Managing Director of IMF, the President of the World Bank and the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, considerable attention was paid to the Asian crisis. It was noted, in this regard that, while inadequacies in domestic financial and monetary policies had played a major part in leading to the problems that countries faced in Asia and elsewhere, those problems would not have reached such proportions if lending institutions operating in the international markets had not taken excessive risks. Concern was also expressed about the recent weakness of the yen which posed a crisis within the crisis. This weakness could seriously jeopardize the ongoing recovery in some countries.

"14. With respect to preventing future crises, it was observed that the severity and the speed of the Asian crisis had highlighted the need for rapid global response capacity to prevent and deal with future crises. This would require the strengthening and adaptation of multilateral institutions and greater coherence in policy-making. An honest re-evaluation of the international policy response – without any preconceptions or prejudice – was also needed. Furthermore, constant vigilance by all countries over all socio-economic parameters had to be maintained. In particular, soundness of the banking system, avoidance of the unsustainable accumulation of short-term financing, and the transparent and accountable character of governance were seen as essential. Also, transparency in international lending and borrowing were crucially important in order to deal with excessive short-term and speculative capital flows and problems of corruption and debt management in the economy. More effective procedures for involving the private sector in preventing and resolving the debt crisis also needed to be established. In addition, in order to reap the benefits of globalization while minimizing its risks, developing countries should continue to liberalize trade and capital controls, paying due attention to sequencing and the soundness of the financial and balance-of-payments situation. At the same time, developing countries should not be pushed into premature financial liberalization. The fruitful dialogue on these issues at the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, held on 18 April 1998, was widely noted and a call was made to hold similar meetings in the future.

"15. With regard to trade liberalization and market access, it was noted that they should also be seen in the context of poverty eradication, the ultimate goal of development efforts. In this context, ensuring the provision of basic services, creating adequate infrastructure and investing in human development were all necessary prerequisites of a developing country's benefiting from any enhancement of global market access for its goods. It was also noted that numerous tariff – and non-tariff – barriers remained, as well as tariff peaks and escalation, which affected developing countries' exports. Liberalization should continue in these and other trade areas. Furthermore, the international trading system could not be viewed in isolation from other developmental concerns, nor from other related issues. Therefore, the future multilateral trade agenda should aim at broad-based liberalization of trade.

"16. Concerning coherence of the United Nations system, it was stressed that cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system, between the United Nations and the international financial institutions, and between the United Nations and the World Trade Organization were crucial for preparing future trade negotiations and addressing other major challenges. At the same, it was noted that within the United Nations system, a substantial increase of dialogue and working together had already been achieved; the challenge was to build upon the progress made to achieve greater complementarity and coherence in the management of the global economy.

"III. High-level debate

"17. It was generally agreed that liberalized world trade was essential in promoting growth and development and in eradicating poverty.

"18. Full commitment to the multilateral trading system was expressed. The Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations had resulted in a more open, rule-based and predictable multilateral trading system and significant improvement in market access conditions. Full and faithful implementation of the Uruguay Round commitments, which was considered essential for the credibility of the multilateral trading system, was called for.

"19. Regret was expressed about the lack of progress in implementing the provisions on special and differential treatment for developing countries, and a strengthened commitment and concrete action to implement these provisions were urged. In this regard, it was recalled that trading partners must guarantee developing countries full market access, and industrialized countries should consider granting unilateral duty-free treatment to developing countries on a preferential basis. However, a number of developed countries did consider the integration of developing countries into the world trading system one of the primary objectives of their development policies, and therefore granted all developing countries, for almost all the exports of those countries, preferential access to their markets.

"20. It was pointed out that significant tariffs and other non-tariff barriers to market access remained important impediments in many sectors, a considerable number of which were of particular interest to developing countries and least developed countries. The view was expressed that the implementation of the Uruguay Round was incomplete in many key areas of particular interest to the developing countries. It was noted that there was little commercially meaningful integration of textiles and clothing into the multilateral trading system so far, and that subsidizing agriculture in developed countries impeded developing countries' agricultural exports as well as their efforts to attain food security. On the other hand, it was recalled that the unprecedentedly large number of developing countries that actively participated in the multilateral trade liberalization had derived large benefits from it, including in terms of improved access to the markets of developed countries.

"21. The developing of a comprehensive agenda for further trade liberalization that reflected the interests of all members of the World Trade Organization was called for. It was noted that the launching of a millennium round of trade negotiations was crucial for meeting the challenges of a globalized economy and it was argued that negotiations to further liberalize agriculture and services should be placed in a broader negotiating framework that would allow for a balanced treatment of the interests of all members. Support was expressed for a multilateral framework of rules on investment and competition in the services sector and for mainstreaming sustainable development into the multilateral trade liberalization agenda.

"22. Reference was made to the agreement at the second Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization to establish a work programme in preparation for the next World Trade Organization ministerial meeting. The developing of a comprehensive agenda for further liberalization, which would reflect the interest of all members and would be able to deliver results in a short time, was called for. Also, all partners were invited to be proactive in setting out their priorities for a multilateral round of trade negotiations.

"23. Measures taken by members of the World Trade Organization that were in contravention of the spirit of the multilateral trade agreements, such as contingency measures (for example, transitional safeguard measures, unilateral rules of origin and back-loading in the implementation of the agreement on textile and clothing), were deplored. Developed importing countries were called upon to faithfully work towards integrating fully the textile and clothing sector into the system. The abuse of anti-dumping measures and the use of discriminatory trade actions were among the actions to be rejected. Some delegations stressed that the taking of unilateral measures as well as the enactment of national laws with extraterritorial effects should be totally excluded as an option of trade policy in regard to the multilateral trading system.

"24. The mandatory reviews of various agreements, such as the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, including Trade in Counterfeit Goods, the Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures and, especially, the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing Settlement of Disputes,[2] were seen as being of considerable importance as well. In this regard, it was pointed out that the Disputes Settlement Understanding should, *inter alia*, include greater technical and legal support to developing countries in order to make the World Trade Organization judicial enforcement mechanism more accessible to those countries.

"25. The lack of technical abilities of the developing countries was seen as a major constraint on their efforts to take fuller advantage of the multilateral trade agreements. The importance of the provision of the necessary technical assistance to developing countries was underlined. Many delegations referred to their ongoing support to developing countries in this regard, as well as to the preferential market access granted by them to these countries.

"26. However, it was noted that securing market access did not by itself guarantee actual export revenues. Competitiveness was based not only on quality and price of products but also on such interrelated factors as good production practices and export financing. Furthermore, comparative advantages were seen as being time-bound and did not guarantee success in the long run.

"27. One delegation pointed out that, while promoting and increasing exports were universally accepted as a means to create wealth, the importance of imports was not often accorded similar treatment. His country, which provided liberal market access, was providing jobs at home and around the globe.

"28. Sound macroeconomic policies and a legal and economic framework that enhanced the growth of a dynamic private sector were seen as essential in improving countries' capacity to trade. Equally important were an enabling environment for investment, good governance, sound competition policy, fostering of human resources in the areas of trade, trade support services, strengthened public institutions focusing on trade, and trade-related infrastructural development.

"29. The view was expressed that a multilateral framework of rules on investment and competition in the service sector should, in particular, provide a stimulant to foreign direct investment. The importance of examining trade issues related to electronic commerce was also emphasized.

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[2] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

"30. Integration of the least developed countries in the global trading system was a priority for all. A number of measures to improve their market access conditions and supply capacity were suggested, such as full and effective implementation of the Plan of Action for the least developed countries adopted at the first Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization,[3] as well as the Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance, Including for Human and Institutional Capacity-building, to Support Least Developed Countries in Their Trade and Trade-related Activities,[3] adopted at the High-level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development held in October 1997; provision of duty-free access to all products and removal of all quantitative import restrictions for least developed countries; elimination of tariff escalation; and elimination of time-based elements in the special and preferential treatment granted to least developed countries in multilateral trade agreements.

"31. Recent preferential actions in favour of least developed countries, including through improvements in generalized system of preference (GSP) schemes, were recounted. It was pointed out that least developed countries themselves needed to continue efforts towards creating a sound macroeconomic framework, including transparent and accountable governance, investment in basic social services and openness to trade and investment.

"32. Commitments to assist least developed countries and African countries were reiterated and bilateral initiatives in favour of these countries were brought to the attention of the Council, and the international community was called upon to continue its effort to enhance market access for products of export interest to Africa and to support Africa's efforts towards diversification and building supply capacity. South-South cooperation in trade and other areas should also be supported.

"33. The importance of official development assistance (ODA) was also noted. It was pointed out that ODA ensures external financial flows to countries that have difficulties in mobilizing domestic resources and in attracting foreign direct investment. ODA-financed development in sectors not reached by private flows, and the 0.7 per cent target have lost none of their importance.

"34. It was underscored that trade policy had an important role to play in restoring stability and growth in countries affected by the crisis in Asia. Rejection of protectionist measures and a clear commitment to pursue further comprehensive trade and investment liberalization were essential in this respect. The crisis had shown the importance of promoting greater coherence between trade and macroeconomic, social and other policies. In this respect, the United Nations could play an important role in promoting greater awareness of these interactions and developing international norms. Enhanced cooperation between the World Trade Organization and the Bretton Woods institutions was crucial, as was greater cooperation between the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. The World Trade Organization was called upon to reflect on how to better effect a coherence between its activities and the broader needs and concerns of the global economy.

"35. The need for promoting the principle of universality in the multilateral trading system, within the framework of the World Trade Organization, was emphasized. Early completion of the accession process was also called for. Many of the countries negotiating entry into the World Trade Organization expected the next round of negotiations to be open for participation of interested countries irrespective of their application for entry into the World Trade Organization. In this regard, it was noted that countries acceding to the World Trade Organization should not be asked for commitments higher than those made by countries that had joined the organization earlier. Early completion of the pending processes for accession was called for.

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[3] World Trade Organization document WT/LDC/HL/1/Rev.1.

"36. At the same time, it was stressed that regional trading arrangements could make an important contribution to a solid and universal multilateral trading system. Such arrangements could help developing countries achieve integration into the world trading system as they had helped them develop and diversify their market bases. However, these arrangements should be fully consistent with the rules and principles of the international trading system and should maintain the basic tenet of open regionalism. The experience gained through such arrangements could benefit the multilateral trading system.

"37. Arguments in favour of making environment and trade policies mutually supportive were also put forward. Reference was made to a recent proposal that the World Trade Organization should convene a high-level meeting on trade and the environment to help overcome the current impasse in discussion and promote the concept of sustainable development in the World Trade Organization agenda.

"38. The adoption by the International Labour Organization (ILO) of a Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work was welcomed and proposals for a practical follow-up mechanism within ILO were eagerly awaited. To pursue enhanced social and environmental protection through positive incentives, a number of developed countries had recently started providing, through their GSP scheme, additional preferences to those developing countries that had adopted and implemented internationally agreed environmental and social norms.

"39. It was also noted that trade conditionalities to enforce non-trading objectives, including those related to labour standards and the environment, could undermine the proper functioning of the multilateral trading system.

"40. One delegation referred to the economic blockade of its country by a developed country, which ignored the successive resolutions of the General Assembly condemning that blockade, and called for its total and unconditional elimination.

"41. A few other delegations noted the importance of emphasizing the danger of an excessive recourse to the imposing of economic sanctions on developing countries. Two delegations condemned the automatic renewal by the Security Council of economic sanctions against their countries despite the General Assembly's calls to put an end to the punitive and unilateral economic measures. It was pointed out by one delegation that the Assembly had not adopted those resolutions by consensus.

"42. One delegation raised the issue of the banana trade and expressed discontent with the World Trade Organization ruling that preferential treatment of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries contravened the World Trade Organization's principles. The delegate warned that the implementation of the ruling would bring about a reduction in the living standards of the people of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and an acceleration of poverty. A fundamental reform of the dispute settlement was needed. In a right of reply, one delegation stated that trade dispute settlements based on rules would always lead to situations in which countries won some rulings but lost others.

"43. Finally, a view was expressed that the United Nations system as a whole, particularly UNCTAD, should continue to play an active role in helping developing countries through, *inter alia*:

"(a) Ensuring a continuum in its work programme between research activities and its capacity-building and technical cooperation functions;

"(b) Providing objective and in-depth analyses of the effects of liberalization and of any proposals for further liberalization;

"(c) Strengthening the capacity of developing countries to participate in trade negotiations;

"(d) Continuing to devote a large part of its work to building and enhancing capacity to trade in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and those in Africa, and substantially increasing its trade-related technical cooperation;

"(e) Strengthening its information and training services, and strengthening technical cooperation to expand export supply capabilities of developing countries;

"(f) Promoting better coherence among global development, financial and trade policies so that the ability of the developing countries to benefit from increasing trade was not compromised by imperfections in financial markets;

"(g) Ensuring that the structural factors such as debt, inadequate concessional development finance and restrictions on the transfer of technology did not impede the developing countries in respect of their availing themselves of the opportunities presented by the multilateral trading system.

"44. In conclusion, many delegations commended UNCTAD and the World Trade Organization for their excellent joint documentation in preparation for the high-level segment and for their support towards its successful outcome."

Chapter V

Operational activities segment

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

1. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation (agenda item 3) at its 19th to 27th, 33rd, 44th and 47th meetings, held from 9 to 14 July and on 17, 28 and 31 July 1998. A high-level meeting on operational activities was held at its 19th to 21st meetings, on 9 July. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.19-21). At its 22nd and 23rd meetings, on 10 July, the Council held an informal dialogue with the heads of United Nations funds and programmes. At its 23rd meeting, the Council also conducted a panel discussion on the results achieved by the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.22 and 23). At its 24th and 25th meetings, on 13 July, the Council considered the question of follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.24 and 25). At its 26th and 27th meetings, on 14 July, the Council held an informal dialogue with the United Nations system country teams from Guatemala and Mozambique. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.26 and 27).

A. Advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development

2. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of the advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development (agenda item 3 (a)) at its 19th to 21st and 44th meetings, on 9 and 28 July. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.19-21 and 44). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of the revised system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996–2001 (E/1998/10);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development (E/1998/54 and Corr.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the mid-term review of the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996–2001 (E/CN.6/1998/3).

Action taken by the Council

3. Under agenda item 3 (a), the Council adopted resolution 1998/26.

Advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development

4. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Roble Olhaye (Djibouti), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.20) entitled "Advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/26.

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the observers for Indonesia (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

B. Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly

7. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly (agenda item 3 (b)) at its 24th, 25th and 47th meetings, on 13 and 31 July. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.24, 25 and 47). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (E/1998/48 and Add.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the revised guidelines for the review of policies and procedures concerning technical cooperation among developing countries (E/1997/110).

Action taken by the Council

8. Under agenda item 3 (b), the Council adopted resolution 1998/42 and decision 1998/284.

Operational activities of the United Nations for the international development cooperation segment

9. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Roble Olhaye (Djibouti), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.43) entitled "Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

10. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/42.

11. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, the United States of America and India, as well as the observers for Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union).

12. At the same meeting, the Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General on the revised guidelines for the review of policies and procedures concerning technical cooperation among developing countries. See Council decision 1998/284.

C. Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

13. At its substantive session, the Council considered the reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme (agenda item 3 (c)) at its 22nd, 23rd, 26th, 27th, 33rd, 44th and 47th meetings, on 10, 14, 28 and 31 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.22, 23, 26, 27, 33, 44 and 47). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund on its first regular session of 1998 (DP/1998/12 and Corr.1 and 2);[1]

(b) Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund at its first regular session of 1998 (DP/1998/13);[1]

(c) Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund at its second regular session of 1998 (DP/1998/16 and Corr.1);[1]

(d) Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund at its annual session of 1998 (DP/1998/28);[1]

(e) Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund to the Council (E/1998/16);

(f) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on the work of its first regular session and annual sessions of 1998 (E/1998/35 (Parts I and II));[2]

(g) Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (E/1998/37);[3]

(h) Annual reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to the Council (E/1998/45);

(i) Annual report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme to the Council (E/1998/62);

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[1] To be issued in *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 16* (E/1998/36/Rev.1).

[2] To be issued in *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 15* (E/1998/35/Rev.1).

[3] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 17.*

(j) Note by the Secretariat transmitting information on the resource mobilization strategy for the United Nations Children's Fund (E/1998/70);

(k) Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund at its 1998 annual session (E/1998/L.11).[2]

Action taken by the Council

14. Under agenda item 3 (c), the Council adopted resolution 1998/27 and decisions 1998/285 and 1998/286.

Input to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/8

15. At the 33rd meeting, on 17 July, the representative of Lithuania, on behalf of the Eastern European States, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.17) entitled "Input to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/8", which read as follows:

> "*The Economic and Social Council*,
>
> "*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993 on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,
>
> "*Also recalling* General Assembly resolution 50/8 of 1 November 1995 on the revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme and reconstitution of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme, in which, in operative paragraph 3, the Assembly decided, *inter alia*, that the distribution of seats determined therein was to be reviewed within two years after the establishment of the Executive Board,
>
> "*Requests* the General Assembly during the first part of its fifty-third session to review the distribution of seats in the Executive Board of the World Food Programme with a view to achieving its final outcome in accordance with annex I, paragraphs 25 and 30 and other relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/162."

16. For action by the Council, see paragraph 19 below.

Issue of the review of the distribution of seats in the Executive Board of the World Food Programme

17. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the representative of Lithuania, on behalf of the Eastern European States, introduced a draft decision (E/1998/L.45) entitled "The issue of the review of the distribution of seats in the Executive Board of the World Food Programme".

18. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the President, the Council decided to waive rule 54 of its rules of procedure and then adopted draft decision E/1998/L.45. See Council decision 1998/285.

19. In the light of the adoption of the draft decision, the Council decided to postpone action on the draft resolution entitled "Input to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/8" (E/1998/L.17) to the resumed substantive session of the Council.

20. After the adoption of the draft decision, the observer for Lithuania made a statement on behalf of the Eastern European States.

Reporting of the United Nations funds and programmes to the Economic and Social Council

21. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Roble Olhaye (Djibouti), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.19) entitled "Reporting of the United Nations funds and programmes to the Economic and Social Council", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

22. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/27.

23. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the observers for Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union).

Documents considered by the Council under agenda item 3 (c)

24. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July 1998, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of the documents submitted under the agenda item. See Council decision 1998/286.

Chapter VI

Coordination segment

Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

1. At its substantive session, the Council held a discussion on coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (agenda item 4) at its 32nd, 33rd, 36th to 38th and 47th meetings on 17, 21, 22 and 31 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.32, 33, 36-38 and 47). The Council had before it the report of the Secretary-General on coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (E/1998/60).

Action taken by the Council

2. At the 47th meeting, on 28 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Francesco Paolo Fulci (Italy) introduced the draft agreed conclusions (E/1998/L.23) on the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

3. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft agreed conclusions, as orally corrected. The text read as follows:

Agreed conclusions 1998/2

> "The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[1] affirms that the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms must be considered as a priority objective of the United Nations in accordance with its purposes and principles, in particular the purpose of international cooperation. In the framework of these purposes and principles, the promotion and protection of all human rights is a legitimate concern of the international community. The organs and specialized agencies related to human rights should further enhance the coordination of their activities based on the consistent and objective application of international human rights instruments.
>
> "All human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated. The international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis. While the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their

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[1] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

"Taking place after the initial discussion on the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action during the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council portion of the five-year review of the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action is of particular importance to the ongoing efforts of the United Nations to increase system-wide coordinated follow-up to, and implementation of, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. It will be followed, during the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, by the overall evaluation of the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights at Vienna.

"The Economic and Social Council reaffirms the important role of non-governmental organizations in the promotion of all human rights and in humanitarian activities at the national, regional and international levels. The Council appreciates their contribution to increasing public awareness of human rights issues, to the conduct of education, training and research in this field, and to the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

"I. Increased system-wide coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

"1. The Economic and Social Council reaffirms the need for increased coordination in support of human rights and fundamental freedoms within the United Nations system. To this end, all United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights shall cooperate in order to strengthen, rationalize and streamline their activities, taking into account the need to avoid unnecessary duplication. The Council, reaffirming the United Nations system-wide approach to human rights, welcomes the fact that human rights are increasingly being promoted throughout the United Nations system. The Council calls on all components of the United Nations system to continue their efforts to increase system-wide coordination and inter-agency cooperation to promote all human rights including gender-related aspects, in their activities. The Council reaffirms the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for coordinating human rights promotion and protection activities throughout the United Nations system and supports her efforts to promote intra-system cooperation and coordination in this area, leading to a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on the contribution of each of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights and on improved inter-agency cooperation and coordination. The Council calls upon United Nations departments, funds, programmes and specialized agencies, within their respective mandates, to participate actively in this process.

"2. Inter-agency consultations at the working level organized by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with the support of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to prepare the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the five-year review of the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, should continue in the future as a forum for cooperation, covering various aspects of United Nations human rights activities.

"3. The Council recommends that the interrelationship and interdependence of democracy, development and respect for all human rights guide the United Nations Secretariat and other parts of the United Nations system when formulating policies or implementing programmes and activities in various areas, recognizing that consideration of economic, social and humanitarian issues would benefit from a perspective that takes fully into account all human rights.

"4. The Council calls upon its functional commissions, as well as the regional commissions and other organs, bodies and specialized agencies, within their respective mandates, to take all human rights fully into account in their respective activities.

"5. The Council emphasizes the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on effective coordination of efforts by United Nations bodies and specialized agencies. The Council reiterates the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action call for the high-level officials of United Nations bodies and agencies, at their annual meeting, not only to coordinate their activities but also to assess the impact of their strategies and policies on the enjoyment of all human rights.

"6. The Council reaffirms the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues.

"7. The Council recommends that all components of the United Nations system active in the field coordinate, within their respective mandates, their projects in human rights and related areas. They should draw on the expertise of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

"8. The Council requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen his efforts to recruit staff for the Secretariat, including staff for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with the paramount consideration being the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and with due regard to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, bearing in mind that the principle of equitable geographical distribution is compatible with the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, as affirmed by the Commission on Human Rights in its report to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council.[2] The Council also stresses the need for the consideration of gender balance for the recruitment of staff at all levels. The Council invites States parties to the human rights treaties to give due consideration to equitable geographical representation and gender balance when nominating and electing members of the human rights treaty bodies.

"9. The Council expresses its support for the system-wide human rights training of United Nations staff to increase and improve cross-sectoral knowledge and thus contribute to human rights awareness-building. Components of the United Nations system are encouraged to cooperate closely in this regard with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

"10. The Council recognizes the necessity for the continuing adaptation of the United Nations human rights machinery to the current and future needs in the promotion and protection of human rights as reflected in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. The Council reaffirms the recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights that the States parties to international human rights instruments, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should consider studying the existing human rights treaty bodies and the various thematic mechanisms and procedures, with a view to promoting greater efficiency and effectiveness through better coordination of the various bodies, mechanisms and procedures, taking into account the need to avoid unnecessary duplication and overlapping of their mandates and tasks. The Council takes note of the ongoing efforts of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within their respective mandates, in this regard.

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[2] E/CN.4/1998/85 and Corr.1.

"11. The Council recognizes the need for increased regular budget resources for the expanded activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner, in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/83.[3] In this regard, the Council reiterates the request of the General Assembly to the Secretary-General, as contained in Assembly resolution 48/141, to provide appropriate staff and resources from within the existing and future regular budgets of the United Nations, to enable the High Commissioner to fulfil her mandate, without diverting resources from the development programmes and activities of the United Nations.

"II. Democracy – development – human rights and the right to development and the role of international cooperation

"1. The Economic and Social Council calls for consistent affirmation throughout the United Nations system of the interrelationship and interdependence between democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms. The relationship between democracy, development and human rights should be taken fully into account in the policies and programmes of the United Nations system. The international community should support the strengthening and promotion of democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the entire world. The Council reaffirms that the right to development as a universal and inalienable right is an integral part of fundamental human rights. As stated in the Declaration on the Right to Development,[4] the human person is the central subject of development. The Council reaffirms the importance of effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development and that progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level.

"2. The Council urges the relevant components of the United Nations system to take further steps for the realization of the right to development and recalls the need for coordination and cooperation throughout the United Nations system for more effective promotion and realization of the right to development. The Council recommends to the relevant components of the United Nations system to enhance cooperation with a view to improving implementation of the right to development and to cooperate with the independent expert on the right to development and the working group on the right to development. The Council invites the Bretton Woods institutions and regional financial institutions to increase their participation in this process.

"3. The Council calls upon the United Nations system to increase its efforts to eradicate poverty in the framework of its overall efforts to promote all human rights. The Council calls for continuing focus of the United Nations system on implementing its agreed conclusions on system-wide efforts for the eradication of poverty,[5] with particular emphasis on extreme poverty, bearing in mind that anti-poverty strategies contribute to the enjoyment of all human rights. The existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights. The Council encourages the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and regional financial institutions, to increase its efforts in this regard.

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[3] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23).

[4] General Assembly resolution 41/128.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/51/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 2, agreed conclusions 1996/1.

"4. The Council calls for increased coordination and cooperation throughout the United Nations system, with a view to supporting national and international efforts in the promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights within the framework of the indivisibility, interdependence and interrelated character of all human rights. The Council supports the efforts undertaken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote the realization of economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development and to assist the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in fulfilling its function. The Council also calls upon components of the United Nations system to pay increased attention to the decisions of the Council and its functional commissions in the area of economic, social and cultural rights. The Council calls upon the components of the United Nations system to support the work of the mechanisms and procedures in the field of economic, social and cultural rights.

"5. The Council calls upon States to refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of the human rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[6] and international human rights instruments, in particular the rights of everyone to a standard of living adequate for their health and well-being, including food and medical care, housing and the necessary social services. The Council affirms that food should not be used as a tool for political pressure.

"6. The Council calls on all parts of the United Nations system to support the strengthening and promotion of democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the entire world. The Council calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the United Nations system to respond effectively to the requests of Member States through coherent and adequate support of their efforts to achieve the goals of accountable and transparent governance and democratization.

"7. The Council calls on all States to adopt and vigorously implement existing conventions relating to the dumping of toxic and dangerous products and waste and to cooperate in the prevention of illicit dumping.

"8. The Council calls upon the international community to make all efforts to help alleviate the external debt burden of developing countries, in order to supplement the efforts of the Governments of such countries to attain the full realization of the economic, social and cultural rights of their people.

"III. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

"1. The Council calls on all relevant components of the United Nations system to strengthen their contribution to the efforts to eradicate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. Enhanced participation in the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination[7] should become the inter-agency tool to achieve improved results in this area. The Council calls on the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to coordinate all the activities of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, including through the establishment of an inter-agency mechanism for coordinating all the activities related to the Third Decade, in line with General Assembly resolution 52/111.

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[6] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[7] General Assembly resolution 49/146.

"2. The Council calls on all relevant components of the United Nations system to assist the preparatory committee and participate actively in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held not later than the year 2001, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/111 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/26.[3]

"3. The Council encourages the United Nations system to elaborate a comprehensive approach to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

"4. The Council recommends to the General Assembly to declare the year 2001 a year of mobilization against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance aimed at drawing the world's attention to the objectives of the World Conference and to give new momentum to the political commitment.

"IV. Equal status and human rights of women

"1. The Council welcomes progress made since the adoption of its agreed conclusions 1997/2 and calls for their implementation, as the framework of the comprehensive strategy to mainstream the gender perspective into all aspects of the work of the United Nations, applying at both the Headquarters and field levels, including women's political and economic empowerment.

"2. The Council welcomes the conclusions on the human rights of women, adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-second session,[8] which together with other conclusions adopted by the Commission, contribute to the accelerated implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.[9]

"3. The Council calls for special efforts by the United Nations system to strengthen expertise concerning the equal status and human rights of women. The Council calls upon all entities of the United Nations system to further mainstream a gender perspective at all levels. Enhanced cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Population Fund should be pursued. The Council welcomes the growing interaction between the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights, including the holding of an interactive dialogue on the human rights of women, during the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

"4. The Council emphasizes the importance of providing training in the human rights of women and gender mainstreaming to all United Nations personnel and officials at Headquarters and in the field, so that they recognize and deal with violations of the human rights of women and can fully integrate gender considerations into their work.

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[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 7* (E/1998/27), chap. I, sect. B.

[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

"5. The Council encourages United Nations bodies and agencies to increase cooperation with other organizations in developing activities to address, within their respective mandates, violations of the human rights of women and to promote the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by women, including developing activities with other organizations, such as the International Organization for Migration, against trafficking in women and children, for purposes of sexual exploitation, including the exploitation of prostitution of women and girls. The Council welcomes the activities of many parts of the United Nations system to eradicate harmful traditional practices against women and girls and encourages continued coordination between them.

"6. The Council recommends to the General Assembly and requests the Commission on Human Rights to make explicit the integration of a gender perspective when establishing or renewing human rights mandates.

"7. The Council encourages the human rights treaty bodies to continue and increase consideration of the status and human rights of women in their deliberations and findings and to promote a better understanding of the rights contained in international human rights instruments and their particular significance to women. The Council encourages the human rights treaty bodies to include the gender factor in monitoring the implementation of international human rights instruments. The Council encourages the strengthening of coordination between the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the other human rights treaty bodies and encourages the human rights treaty bodies to coordinate their activities for monitoring the full enjoyment by women of their human rights.

"8. The Council welcomes the efforts of the United Nations to encourage the goal of universal ratification by all States of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[10] by the year 2000 and encourages further steps for the achievement of this goal. The Council takes note of the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in reviewing the reservations to the Convention and urges States to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law.

"V. Those requiring special protection

"The Council requests all components of the United Nations system to undertake, in close coordination and cooperation with one another, an assessment of the impact of their strategies and policies on the enjoyment of human rights by those requiring special protection.

"1. The Council stresses the importance of efforts by concerned United Nations organs, bodies, and specialized agencies for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child and recognizes that inter-agency cooperation in this respect is yielding positive results. The Council supports the rights-based approach adopted by the United Nations Children's Fund and encourages its further development. Greater international cooperation and further development of joint and/or coordinated efforts, as well as the involvement of all components of the United Nations system in the protection of the rights of the child, should be encouraged.

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[10] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

"2. The Council requests that human rights and humanitarian concerns relating to children affected by armed conflict and their protection be fully reflected in all United Nations activities, including peacekeeping and peace-building activities, and in this regard, requests the relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, as well as the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other component bodies, to enhance their cooperation with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children in Armed Conflict.

"3. The Council further requests the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies to continue to address the exploitation and abuse of children, including female infanticide, harmful child labour, harmful traditional practices against the girl child, the sale of children and organs, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as other forms of sexual abuse.

"4. The Council welcomes the positive results of the cooperation between the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the United Nations Children's Fund.

"5. The Council reaffirms the commitment of the United Nations to continuing its efforts in encouraging the achievement of the goal of universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, established by the World Summit for Children and reiterated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

"6. The Council encourages relevant components of the United Nations system, within their mandates, as appropriate, to facilitate the negotiating process of the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous people by the working group of the Commission on Human Rights, including through workshops and seminars, as well as consideration of proposals for the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people within the United Nations system, to be discussed in the open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc working group of the Commission on Human Rights. The Council further encourages Member States to consider an early ratification of International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in independent countries.

"7. The Council requests the United Nations Development Programme and other components of the United Nations system, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as Coordinator of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, to ensure that their programmes address the rights of indigenous people. The Council encourages Member States to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, established for projects related to the Decade. The Council encourages United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in cooperation with Member States, to support the activities of the Decade, including through consideration of small grants for projects carried out by indigenous people.

"8. The Council urges States and the international community to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, in accordance with the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities.[11] The Council welcomes the inter-agency consultations of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with United Nations programmes and agencies on minority issues.

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[11] General Assembly resolution 47/135.

The Council further endorses the continuation of inter-agency consultations on minority issues with a view to enhancing the exchange of information, including through the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, and ensuring increased participation of minorities in programmes and projects that affect them.

"9. The Council further encourages Member States to consider early ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[12] which has not yet entered into force owing to the insufficient number of ratifications.

"10. The Council encourages its subsidiary bodies and other relevant components of the United Nations system to enhance their contribution in the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and to ensure that their programmes address the needs of persons with disabilities. Furthermore, the Council calls upon the United Nations system and, in particular, its funds, programmes and specialized agencies to integrate the rights of persons with disabilities into all their activities, including through inter-agency consultations on disability issues with a view to enhancing the exchange of information, and ensuring increased participation of persons with disabilities in the programmes and projects that affect them. The Council welcomes the interaction between the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development with the Commission on Human Rights and the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The Council also encourages the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat to enhance the promotion of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[13] and to assist Governments, at their request, in the implementation of national standards for their protection.

"11. The Council calls on relevant components of the United Nations to strengthen efforts to develop a comprehensive approach to the problems of refugees that includes the development of strategies to address the root causes and effects of the movement of refugees, and to strengthen emergency preparedness and response mechanisms and protection and assistance for refugees, particularly women and children. The Council stresses the need to search for durable solutions to the problems of refugees primarily through the preferred solution of dignified and safe voluntary repatriation, including solutions such as those adopted by the international refugee conferences. In this regard, the Council stresses the need to ensure international cooperation in the spirit of international solidarity and burden sharing, bearing in mind the relevant international instruments, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[6] the 1951 Convention[14] and the 1967 Protocol[15] relating to the Status of Refugees. The Council calls upon all States to support the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in order to ensure that the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner are fully met.

"12. The Council commends the Representative of the Secretary-General for his efforts to promote a comprehensive strategy that focuses on prevention, as well as better protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons and, in this regard, notes the progress achieved to date in developing a legal framework. The Council notes with satisfaction the designation of the Emergency Relief Coordinator as the focal point for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons. The Council encourages all relevant humanitarian assistance and development organizations to enhance their collaboration by developing frameworks of cooperation to promote protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons.

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[12] General Assembly resolution 45/158.

[13] General Assembly resolution 37/52.

[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[15] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

"13. The Council calls upon the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and its co-sponsors to provide technical assistance to States, upon their request, for the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of HIV/AIDS.

"VI. Technical cooperation, human rights education and information

"1. The Council welcomes the increasing number of requests from Member States for technical assistance in the field of human rights undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other parts of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates. The Council reaffirms that advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights, which shall be provided upon the request of the State concerned, require close cooperation and coordination between United Nations bodies and all specialized agencies active in the field so as to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of their respective programmes and to promote all human rights. This cooperation shall be based on the respective comparative advantages for the provision of technical assistance in the field of human rights. The Council reaffirms that cooperation should be based on dialogue and transparency, involving all relevant actors.

"2. The Council reiterates that special emphasis should be given to measures to assist in the strengthening and building of institutions relating to human rights, the strengthening of a pluralistic civil society and the protection of groups that have been rendered vulnerable. In this context, assistance provided upon the request of Governments for the conduct of free and fair elections, including assistance in the human rights aspects of elections and public information about elections, is of particular importance. Equally important is the assistance to be given to the strengthening of the rule of law, the promotion of freedom of expression and the administration of justice, and to the real and effective participation of the people in the decision-making processes.

"3. The Council reiterates the recommendation of the World Conference concerning the assignment of human rights officers to regional offices of the United Nations to assist in the dissemination of information, training and other technical assistance in the field of human rights. The Council takes note with interest of the experiences of those countries where, upon the request of Governments concerned, human rights officers are becoming an integral part of United Nations country teams to provide input in the formulation and implementation of their respective programmes.

"4. The Council encourages the human rights treaty bodies, special rapporteurs and special representatives as well as working groups, to continue to identify possibilities for technical assistance that could be provided at the request of the State concerned.

"5. The Council welcomes the important work being done by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations

High Commissioner for Human Rights in the implementation of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education and calls for renewed system-wide efforts to strengthen the contribution to the implementation of the goals of the Decade by allocating appropriate human and financial resources.

"6. The Council encourages relevant departments of the Secretariat and other components of the United Nations system, as provided for by the Plan of Action for the Decade,[16] to designate a human rights education liaison officer to work with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the development of educational activities relating to human rights in the area of their competence.

"7. The Council recommends that the General Assembly reiterate its full support for the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights proclaimed in 1988 and allocate adequate resources for its effective performance, and calls upon the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate the substantive aspects of the campaign.

"VII. Implementation

"1. The Council urges Governments to incorporate in their domestic legislation standards as contained in international human rights instruments and to strengthen national structures, institutions and organs of society which play a role in promoting and safeguarding human rights. The Council affirms that relevant specialized agencies and bodies and institutions of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant intergovernmental organizations whose activities deal with human rights, play a vital role in the formulation, promotion and implementation of human rights standards, within their respective mandates.

"2. The Council supports the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to encourage the ratification of all international human rights treaties by all States during the next five years, as a means to achieve the goal of universal ratification of international human rights treaties and protocols adopted within the framework of the United Nations system. The Office of the High Commissioner and other components of the United Nations system should provide assistance, upon request and within their respective mandates, to Governments in the process of ratifying such instruments and the preparation of initial reports. The Council calls on the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to disseminate information on the work of the human rights treaty bodies.

"3. The Council welcomes the contribution to the work of the human rights treaty bodies made by the specialized agencies and United Nations bodies, and encourages the specialized agencies and United Nations bodies, the Office of the High Commissioner and the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies to continue to explore specific measures to intensify the cooperation among them, and also encourages, in this context, meetings of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies to invite, when appropriate, senior representatives of the specialized agencies and United Nations bodies to attend their meeting.

"4. The Council reiterates the important role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in coordinating system-wide attention for human rights. In this context, the Council calls on relevant components of the United

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[16] A/49/261/Add.1-E/1994/110/Add.1, annex.

Nations system to increase cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner. The Council encourages the High Commissioner, within her mandate as set out in General Assembly resolution 48/141, to continue to play an active role in promoting and protecting human rights, including by preventing human rights violations throughout the world. The Council notes with interest the increase in the number of human rights field operations throughout the world and encourages the High Commissioner to consider their further improvement in cooperation with other relevant components of the United Nations system.

"5. The Council recommends that each State consider the desirability of drawing up a national plan of action identifying steps whereby that State would improve the promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, the Council encourages the relevant components of the United Nations system to provide assistance at the request of Member States for the adoption and implementation of national plans of action in the field of human rights.

"VIII. Interaction between implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and outcomes of other United Nations conferences and summits

"The Council reiterates that the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action is an integral part of the coordinated follow-up to major conferences and summits convened by the United Nations. The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, together with outcomes of the other major conferences and summits organized by the United Nations, shall be further integrated into the programme of work of all organizations of the United Nations system."

4. Statements were made by the representatives of Brazil and Lebanon and by the observer for the Syrian Arab Republic.

Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

5. Also at the 47th meeting, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. See Council decision 1998/287.

Chapter VII
Humanitarian affairs segment

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

1. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance (agenda item 5) at its 28th to 32nd meetings, from 14 to 17 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.28-32). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations (A/53/139-E/1998/67);

(b) Letter dated 9 July 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/53/172-E/1998/86).

2. At its 29th meeting, on 15 July, the Council held an informal dialogue with the executive and deputy executive heads of the Inter-Agency Steering Committee and the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs.

3. At its 30th and 31st meetings, on 16 July, the Council held an informal dialogue on natural disasters and on complex emergencies with the participation of a number of United Nations resident and humanitarian coordinators. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records.

Action taken by the Council

4. At the 32nd meeting, on 17 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Alyaksandr Sychou (Belarus), introduced the draft agreed conclusions on special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance (E/1998/L.15).

5. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft agreed conclusions as set out below.

Agreed conclusions 1998/1

"1. The Economic and Social Council is addressing the theme of 'Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian activities of the United Nations system' in its first humanitarian segment. Previous relevant resolutions, in particular General Assembly resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and its annex, including the guiding principles contained therein, provide the basis of this discussion.

"2. The Council takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations (A/53/139-E/1998/67). It welcomes progress made in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, and wishes to give guidance for further developments in this direction.

"3. The Council reiterates the need for coordinated humanitarian assistance and adequate financial resources to ensure an ongoing capacity for a prompt, timely and effective response by the United Nations system to natural disasters and other emergencies, both for immediate relief and for the smooth transition between relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and long-term development, which are not necessarily sequential and often proceed at the same time.

"4. The Council reaffirms that humanitarian operations are generally implemented through close cooperation among Governments and the United Nations, its agencies, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations. Each State has the responsibility first and foremost to take care of the victims of natural disasters and other emergencies occurring on its territory. Hence, the affected State has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory. The magnitude and duration of many emergencies may be beyond the response capacity of many affected countries. International cooperation to address emergency situations and strengthen the response capacity of affected countries is thus of great importance. Such cooperation should be provided in accordance with international law and national laws. Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations working impartially and with strictly humanitarian motives should continue to make a significant contribution in supplementing national efforts.

"5. The Council is concerned by the growing number of natural disasters and environmental emergencies which often strike countries that lack the resources to cope with them adequately.

"6. The Council affirms its support for the principles and norms of international humanitarian law, and stresses the urgent need to ensure respect for and promotion of these principles and norms. The Council is also concerned by the increasingly difficult context in which humanitarian assistance in some areas takes place, in particular the continuous erosion, in many cases, of the respect for international humanitarian law and principles, through deliberate violence both against civilians, particularly women and children, and aid workers. The Council welcomes the continued efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to prevent the targeting of women and children in conflict situations, stop the recruitment and use of children as soldiers in hostilities in violation of international law, and support the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers. The Council notes the importance of engaging a much wider segment of civil society in raising awareness for humanitarian issues and respect for international humanitarian law and principles, and in supporting humanitarian programmes.

"7. The Council reaffirms General Assembly resolution 52/167 of 16 December 1997 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, in which the Assembly calls upon all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular armed conflicts and post-conflict situations, in countries where humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons. The Council also reaffirms the necessity for all humanitarian personnel to respect the national laws of the countries in which they are operating.

"8. The Emergency Relief Coordinator, in cooperation with the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat, should ensure that a gender perspective is fully integrated into humanitarian activities and policies.

"9. The Council welcomes the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, in particular through the creation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian

Affairs, with its three core functions of policy development and coordination, advocacy of humanitarian issues and coordination of humanitarian emergency response, as well as the guiding objectives of the Office in implementing the reforms. It fully supports the leadership role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the ongoing coordination of humanitarian assistance activities and prioritization of programmes within United Nations Consolidated Appeals. The Council notes that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs is responsible for sharing all relevant information with the United Nations Mine Action Service, the focal point within the United Nations system for all mine-related activities, and other partners on the humanitarian implications of landmines, and will work to ensure that humanitarian needs are met as an integral component of the overall humanitarian endeavour.

"10. The Council commends the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) under the leadership of the Emergency Relief Coordinator as the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination for its efforts to achieve coherent coordination structures at the field level and to promote, at the inter-agency level, a clear division of responsibilities and ensure accountability, as well as for improving the reporting modalities by the funds and programmes on their humanitarian assistance activities. The Council welcomes the use of inter-agency negotiating teams led by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, to advocate the respect of humanitarian principles in the field and the development of contingency planning.

"11. The Council notes with satisfaction the designation of the Emergency Relief Coordinator as the focal point for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs), and also notes the adoption by IASC of the guiding principles on IDPs, and encourages the Emergency Relief Coordinator, in fulfilling this function, to work closely with all agencies and organizations involved, in particular with the Representative of the Secretary-General on IDPs, who will report to the Commission of Human Rights on his efforts and on the views expressed to him on these guiding principles.

"12. The Council shares the view of the Secretary-General that the resident coordinator should normally coordinate the humanitarian assistance activities of the United Nations by assuming the dual function of resident/humanitarian coordinator. Other mechanisms, namely the appointment of a humanitarian coordinator distinct from the resident coordinator and the designation of a lead agency as well as the appointment of a regional coordinator, might be justified under appropriate circumstances. The Council fully supports enhanced efforts to clarify the parameters of authority for the resident/humanitarian coordinator functions, the establishment of selection criteria and procedures, and specific training and performance review mechanisms for humanitarian coordinators, and encourages the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and IASC to pursue these goals vigorously. The Council encourages all United Nations funds and programmes to cooperate fully in developing and maintaining a roster of qualified candidates.

"13. The Council calls upon the Secretary-General to develop emergency rules and procedures to ensure a rapid response to humanitarian crises, as requested in General Assembly resolution 46/182.

"14. The Council welcomes the emphasis in the report of the Secretary-General on the issues of natural disasters and environmental emergencies, and reaffirms the importance it attaches to this aspect of the Emergency Relief Coordinator's mandate. The Council reaffirms that disaster reduction forms an integral part of the sustainable development strategies and national development plans of vulnerable countries and communities. The Council stresses that disaster preparedness and early warning must be further strengthened at country and regional levels, *inter alia*, through better coordination among relevant United Nations bodies and cooperation with interested Governments, regional organizations and other relevant sectors, in order to maximize the effectiveness of natural disaster response, in particular in developing countries. Particular efforts should be undertaken to enhance local capacity in disaster response, as well as to utilize capacities already existing in developing countries which may be available closer to the site of a disaster and at lower cost. The Council commends the work of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) teams in providing rapid need assessments and facilitating the coordination of disaster response. The Council takes note that a review of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) will take place at the substantive session of 1999 of the Council.

"15. The Council commends the Emergency Relief Coordinator for his efforts in implementing General Assembly resolution 52/200 entitled 'International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon' and invites the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force on El Niño to provide its experiences on national capacity programmes for disaster management as an input to the development of the disaster reduction strategy for the twenty-first century.

"16. The Council recognizes the contributions made by donor Governments to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Relief Assistance and notes that the unearmarked contributions to the reserve of this Trust Fund could usefully be increased, and therefore strongly encourages further contributions to this reserve.

"17. The Council recognizes that the phases of relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development are generally not consecutive but often overlap and occur simultaneously. It also recognizes that a 'relief/development gap' may occur in countries emerging from crisis which may be addressed, *inter alia*, through a strategic framework, to be developed in consultation with Governments. The Council notes the need to develop, through a strategic framework, when appropriate, a comprehensive approach to countries in crisis, in which key aspects of durable recovery, peace-building, all human rights, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences, are included. The development of such a comprehensive approach must involve national authorities as well as the United Nations system, donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. National authorities must take a leading role in all aspects of the recovery plan. In this context, the Council welcomes the recognition by the World Bank of the need for its entry into an early dialogue with humanitarian agencies and to participate from the outset in effective coordination mechanisms in relation to countries emerging from crisis. The Council stresses that strengthening capacities to enable societies in post-conflict situations to manage their own affairs is a critical factor for recovery and development. In this context, the roles and responsibilities of Governments are important.

"18. The Council underlines that the consolidated appeal process (CAP) remains the principal resource mobilization tool for humanitarian assistance. The Council stresses the importance of ensuring adequate funding for humanitarian activities, in particular of consolidated appeals. It welcomes efforts to prioritize needs and to enhance capabilities so as to better take into account linkages with development-oriented activities which should continue to be intensified. It underlines that the consolidated appeals process should be carried out in full collaboration with United Nations bodies and other relevant humanitarian organizations, international financial institutions, donors and host Governments as an important step towards a more integrated and strategic approach. It stresses that contributions to humanitarian assistance should not be provided at the expense of development assistance. The Council encourages the efforts to improve the format and structure of the CAP so as to make them effective programming instruments for the purpose of strategic planning. The Council further stresses that strengthened United Nations humanitarian activities must be supported by adequate responses to all United Nations humanitarian appeals. Broadening the base of the donors may contribute to an increased response to appeals. The Council stresses that the response to international appeals should not be overly influenced by the levels of media interest, and must be commensurate with the needs of the affected population.

"19. The Council invites the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, for its consideration, his proposals for putting the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on a sound financial basis for the coordination of humanitarian assistance activities.

"20. The Council stresses the importance of ensuring an overall accountability of humanitarian actors. It supports the development by IASC of a field-based system for strategic monitoring which will help assess how programme targets and strategic objectives are being met.

"21. The Council affirms the importance of discussion of policies and activities in the humanitarian area in the Council and the General Assembly. The Council requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Governments, to recommend, at its organizational session, ways in which the humanitarian segment may be enhanced so as to strengthen the role of the Council as regards the coordination and policy guidance of United Nations system humanitarian activities, taking fully into account the outcome and views expressed by Member States during the substantive session of 1998 of the Council.

"22. The Council requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its next humanitarian segment on the implementation of/follow-up to these agreed conclusions."

Chapter VIII
General segment

A. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

1. At is substantive session, the Council considered the question of integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (agenda item 6) at its 42nd and 47th meetings, on 27 and 31 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.42 and 47). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits (E/1998/19);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1997 coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council on freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation (E/1998/56);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1997 coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system (E/1998/64);

(d) Statement of commitment of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for action to eradicate poverty (E/1998/73).

Action taken by the Council

2. Under agenda item 6, the Council adopted resolutions 1998/43 and 1998/44 and decisions 1998/288 and 1998/290.

Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

3. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the President of the Council introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.32) entitled "Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

4. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/43.

5. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the observers for Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Germany made a statement.

Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits

7. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the President of the Council introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.42) entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits, submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

8. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/44.

9. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, the United States of America, Japan and Chile and by the observers for Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

10. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the President of the Council introduced a draft decision (E/1998/L.41) entitled "Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

11. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico corrected the draft decision.

12. After statements by the representatives of India and Mexico, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1998/290.

13. After the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representative of India and by the observer for Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

14. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Council, on the proposal of the President, took note of documents considered in connection with integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits. See Council decision 1998/288.

B. Coordination, programme and other questions

15. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of coordination, programme and other questions (agenda item 7) at its 41st, 42nd and 44th to 47th meetings, on 24 and 27 to 31 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.41, 42 and 44-47). It had before it the following documents:

(a) Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 (A/53/6);

(b) Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the first part of its thirty-eighth session (A/53/16 (Part I) and Corr.1);[1]

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera (E/1998/20);

(d) Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1997 (E/1998/21);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the field of informatics (E/1998/44);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on preparations for the International Year of Peace, 2000 (E/1998/52);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on the proclamation of an international year of mountains (E/1998/68);

(h) Letter dated 26 June 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/1998/80);

(i) Letter dated 30 June 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council, conveying a proposal to proclaim 2005 an international year of microcredit (E/1998/83);

(j) Letter dated 8 July 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/85).

Action taken by the Council

16. Under agenda item 7, the Council adopted resolutions 1998/28 to 1998/31, 1998/36, 1998/37 and 1998/45 and decision 1998/289.

International Year of Microcredit, 2005

17. At the 42nd meeting, on 27 July, the representative of Bangladesh, also on behalf of the Bahamas*, Belarus, Bolivia*, Burkina Faso*, Burundi*, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica*, Côte d'Ivoire*, the Democratic Republic of the Congo*, the Dominican Republic*, El Salvador, Eritrea*, Fiji*, Guyana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of)*, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan*, Kenya*, Lesotho, Malawi*, Malaysia*, Mauritius, Morocco*, Namibia*, Nepal*, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama*, Peru*, the Philippines*, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines*, Senegal*, Sri Lanka, the Sudan*, the Syrian Arab Republic*, Thailand*, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania* and Vanuatu*, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.25 and Corr.1) entitled "International Year of Microcredit, 2005". Subsequently Azerbaijan*, Benin*, the Central African Republic, Djibouti, the Gambia, Indonesia*, Jordan, Mongolia*, Pakistan, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

18. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/28.

19. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Bangladesh made a statement.

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[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 16*.

* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

1. Reports of coordination bodies

20. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Council took note of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the first part of its thirty-eighth session, and the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1997. See Council decision 1998/289.

2. Malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera

21. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the observer for Indonesia*, on behalf of the States members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.30) entitled "Malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera", which read as follows:

> "*The Economic and Social Council*,
>
> "*Reaffirming* the agreed conclusions of the coordination segment of its substantive session of 1993,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolutions 1994/34 of 29 July 1994 and 1995/63 of 28 July 1995 and General Assembly resolutions 49/135 of 19 December 1994 and 50/128 of 20 December 1995,
>
> "*Noting with concern* that malaria and diarrhoeal diseases remain prevalent in developing countries, especially in Africa, and also noting their dire consequences for health and development in Africa,
>
> "*Recognizing* that these diseases especially afflict people living in poverty, that effective and affordable means of preventing and treating them are available and that combating them is an effective and essential element in eradicating poverty and fostering development,
>
> "*Noting* the leadership role in global malaria control given to the World Health Organization in General Assembly resolution 49/135 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/63, and the role of the World Health Organization in directing and coordinating international efforts to prevent and control these diseases,
>
> "*Acknowledging* the important contributions of the United Nations funds and programmes and the role of the United Nations Children's Fund and other bodies of the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and a wide variety of individuals and organizations in controlling these diseases,
>
> "*Noting in particular* the critical role of industry in supporting research and development of vaccines, drugs and diagnostic tests that will further improve the efficacy of control efforts and the catalytic role being played by the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases of the World Health Organization in supporting industry,
>
> "*Warmly acknowledging* the statement supporting malaria prevention and control made during the summit meeting of the Heads of State of the Group of Eight, held in Birmingham in May 1998, and the pledge of 60 million pounds in support of the Roll Back Malaria initiative of the World Health Organization,

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

"1 *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera;

"2. *Supports* the actions taken in 1997 and 1998 with respect to malaria prevention and control in the context of African economic recovery and development by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity;

"3. *Appreciates* the actions taken to strengthen research in endemic countries of Africa under the Multilateral Initiative on Malaria in Africa, an initiative widely supported by members of the international development community and by scientists within those endemic countries;

"4. *Endorses* the Roll Back Malaria initiative of the World Health Organization supporting the existing African initiative on malaria;

"5. *Requests* the United Nations, and appeals to international organizations, multilateral financial institutions, the specialized agencies, organs and programmes of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other groups, to join as partners in this initiative by, *inter alia*, contributing technical and financial support;

"6. *Notes* that vaccines provide some of the most effective means of preventing disease and that vaccine development, although now made more feasible by multiple developments in the field of biotechnology, remains a difficult and long-term task highly deserving of increased financial support;

"7. *Stresses* the importance of adopting national plans of action in conformity with the Global Malaria Control Strategy of the World Health Organization in countries where malaria is endemic;

"8. *Urges* international development partners, in collaboration with private industry, to intensify their efforts to develop and widely distribute vaccines and other remedies against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, including cholera;

"9. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the donor countries, to expand financial resources as well as other assistance including medical and technical assistance to the affected developing countries, in particular the African countries, for the implementation of work plans and projects in this field;

"10. *Urges* the Director-General of the World Health Organization to continue to provide, in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund and other concerned United Nations agencies and programmes and other relevant international organizations such as International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases Research and the International Vaccine Institute, technical expertise and support to endemic countries;

"11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999 on the implementation of the present resolution, to be prepared in collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and other relevant organizations, organs, bodies and programmes of the United Nations system."

22. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.37) entitled "Malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera", submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1998/L.30.

23. At the same meeting, the President of the Council orally revised operative paragraph 11 of the draft resolution to read as follows:

> "*Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2001 on the implementation of the present resolution, to be prepared by the Director-General of the World Health Organization, in collaboration with other relevant organizations, organs, bodies and programmes of the United Nations system".

24. At the same meeting, the Council adopted draft resolution E/1998/L.37 as orally revised. See Council resolution 1998/36.

25. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1998/L.37, draft resolution E/1998/L.30 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

3. Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001

26. The Council took no action on the question of proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 (agenda item 7 (c)).

4. International cooperation in the field of informatics

The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

27. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the President of the Council introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.16) entitled "The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

28. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/29.

Suggested guidelines for addressing the year 2000 problem of computers

29. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.40) entitled "Suggested guidelines for addressing the year 2000 problem of computers", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

30. At the same meeting the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/45.

5. Proclamation of an international year of mountains

31. At the 42nd meeting, on 27 July, the observer for Kyrgyzstan*, also on behalf of Afghanistan*, Albania*, Algeria, Andorra*, Angola*, Argentina, Armenia*, Australia*, Austria*, Azerbaijan*, Bahrain*, Bangladesh, Barbados*, Belarus, Benin*, Bhutan*, Bolivia*, Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Brazil, Bulgaria*, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, the Congo*, Costa Rica*, Côte d'Ivoire*, Croatia*, Cuba, Cyprus*, the Czech Republic, Djibouti, Ecuador*, Egypt*, El Salvador, Ethiopia*, Fiji*, France, Gabon, Georgia*, Germany, Greece*, Guatemala*, Guinea*, Guyana, Honduras*, Iceland, India, Indonesia*, Iran (Islamic Republic of)*, Ireland*, Italy, Jamaica*, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan*, Kenya*, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein*, Luxembourg*, Malawi*, Malaysia*,

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Malta*, Mauritius, Monaco*, Mongolia*, Morocco*, Myanmar*, Nepal*, the Netherlands*, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Peru*, the Philippines*, Portugal*, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova*, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino*, Slovakia*, Slovenia,* Solomon Islands, *South Africa, *Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland*, Tajikistan*, Thailand*, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan*, Uganda*, Ukraine*, the United States of America, Uruguay*, Viet Nam and Yemen*, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.21), entitled "Proclamation of an international year of mountains".

32. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/30.

33. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the observer for Kyrgyzstan made a statement (see E/1998/SR.45).

34. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the observer for Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) made a statement.

6. International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000

International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World (2001–2010)

35. At the 42nd meeting, on 27 July, the representative of Bangladesh, also on behalf of Afghanistan*, Barbados*, Belarus, Brazil, Burundi*, Cape Verde, Costa Rica*, Côte d'Ivoire*, Gabon, Guinea*, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan*, Madagascar*, Mali*, Malta*, Morocco*, Mozambique, the Niger*, Panama*, Papua New Guinea*, the Philippines*, Poland, Qatar*, Saint Lucia, Swaziland*, Turkmenistan*, Togo and Venezuela*, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.14) entitled "International Decade for a Culture of Non-Violence and Peace for the Children of the World (2001–2010)". The draft resolution read as follows:

> "*The Economic and Social Council*
>
> "*Recommends* to the General Assembly, in this year of the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which sustains the spirit, concept and practice of peace and non-violence, the adoption at its fifty-third session of the following resolution:
>
> '*International Decade for a Culture of Non-violence and Peace for the Children of the World*
>
> '*The General Assembly*,
>
> '*Recalling* its resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/47 of 22 July 1997 proclaiming the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, as well as General Assembly resolution 52/13 of 20 November 1997 on a culture of peace,
>
> '*Recognizing* that enormous harm and suffering are caused to children through different forms of violence at every level of our societies throughout the world and that principles and practice of non-violence and peace can

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

promote respect for life and dignity of each human being without prejudice or discrimination of any kind, especially for the world's children,

'*Recognizing also* the role of education in constructing a culture of non-violence and peace, in particular by teaching the practice of non-violence to children, as it promotes the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

'*Emphasizing* that the promotion of a culture of non-violence and peace that emanates from childhood will contribute to the strengthening of international peace and cooperation for socio-economic and cultural development, and will help children to be aware, not only of their rights but also of their responsibilities, by learning how to live together in harmony, within their families and among fellow human beings,

'*Underlining* that the proposed decade will contribute to advance the implementation of the other objectives, activities and programmes of the United Nations aimed at promoting human rights, education, non-discrimination, volunteers' commitments, protection of the environment and protection of children in especially difficult circumstances as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

'*Convinced* that an international decade for a culture of non-violence and peace for the children of the world, at the beginning of the new millennium, would give a strong encouragement to the efforts of the international community to foster harmony, peace and development throughout the world,

'1. *Proclaims* that the period 2001–2010 will constitute the International Decade for a Culture of Non-violence and Peace for the Children of the World,

'2. *Invites* the Secretary-General to present a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, in consultation with all relevant United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations, to finalize the draft programme of action of the Decade in connection with the implementation of the Decade at local, national, regional and international levels, and to coordinate the agenda and mandate of the Decade;

'3. *Invites* each Member State to take the necessary steps to ensure that the practice of non-violence is taught at all levels in their society including in each educational institution, which will focus on the practical meaning and benefits of the practice of non-violence in daily life;

'4. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies such as the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, spiritual leaders throughout the world, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, the media, the performing arts and civil societies to actively support the Decade for the benefit of every child of the world;

'5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "International Decade for a Culture of Non-violence and Peace for the Children of the World (2001–2010)".'"

36. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council had before it a revised draft resolution (E/1998/L.14/Rev.1) entitled "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence

for the Children of the World (2001–2010)", submitted by Afghanistan*, Antigua and Barbuda*, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados*, Belarus, Brazil, Burundi*, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica*, Côte d'Ivoire*, Djibouti, Ecuador*, El Salvador, Gabon, Guatemala*, Guinea*, Guyana, India, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan*, Madagascar*, Mali*, Malta*, Mauritius, Morocco*, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger*, Nigeria*, Panama*, Papua New Guinea*, the Philippines*, Poland, Qatar*, Saint Lucia, Swaziland*, Togo, Turkmenistan* and Venezuela*. Subsequently Angola*, Benin*, the Congo*, the Democratic Republic of the Congo*, the Dominican Republic*, Malawi*, Nepal*, Thailand*, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania*, Uganda* and Uruguay* joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

37. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the revised draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/31.

38. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the observer for Austria on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000

39. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the representative of Bangladesh, also on behalf of Chile, Costa Rica*, Côte d'Ivoire*, Ecuador*, El Salvador, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Togo and Turkey, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.31) entitled "International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000". Subsequently, Cape Verde, the Dominican Republic*, Guatemala*, Mali*, Morocco*, Nigeria*, Panama*, Paraguay*, the Philippines*, Somalia*, the United Republic of Tanzania* and Uruguay* joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

40. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.38) entitled "International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000", submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1998/L.31.

41. At the same meeting, the Council adopted draft resolution E/1998/L.38. See Council resolution 1998/37.

42. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1998/L.38, draft resolution E/1998/L.31 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B

43. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B (agenda item 8) at its 43rd, 47th and 48th meetings, on 27 and 31 July 1998. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (A/53/137-E/1998/66);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the joint exploratory review of cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions (E/1998/61);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the utilization of the development dividend (E/1998/81).

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

Action taken by the Council

44. Under agenda item 8, the Council adopted resolutions 1998/46 and 1998/47 and decision 1998/296.

Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields

45. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.18) entitled "Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields", submitted on the basis of informal consultations. In his statement, he orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In annex I, paragraph 15, the square brackets were removed;

(b) In annex III, paragraph 13, a new sentence was added at the end of the paragraph, which read "In this regard, the Economic and Social Council encourages the Secretary-General to take into account these measures in his report under the agenda item on regional cooperation in 1999";

(c) In annex III, section D was deleted.

46. A statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, was circulated in document E/1998/L.35.

47. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised. See Council resolution 1998/46.

48. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Japan, China, the United States of America, Cuba, Canada, Lebanon and Bangladesh and by the observers for Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Australia.

Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields: modalities for elections

49. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.46) entitled "Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields: modalities for elections", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

50. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/47.

Development account

51. At the 48th meeting, on 31 July, the observer for Indonesia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, orally proposed a decision on the development account.

52. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision (subsequently issued as document E/1998/L.50). See Council decision 1998/296.

53. Before the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representatives of Pakistan, Cuba, the Russian Federation and Algeria and by the observers for Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Egypt.

54. After the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, the United States of America and Pakistan and by the observer for Egypt.

D. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

55. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (agenda item 9) at its 39th, 40th and 46th meetings, on 23 and 30 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.39, 40 and 46). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/53/130 and Corr.1);

(b) Letter dated 18 June 1998 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General (A/53/152-E/1998/71);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (A/53/153-E/1998/75);

(d) Report of the President of the Council on consultations held with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (E/1998/76).

Action taken by the Council

56. Under agenda item 9, the Council adopted resolution 1998/38 and decision 1998/282.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

57. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the representative of Cuba, also on behalf of China, Côte d'Ivoire*, Iran (Islamic Republic of)*, Iraq*, Papua New Guinea*, the Sudan*, the Syrian Arab Republic*, the United Republic of Tanzania*, Tunisia, Viet Nam and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.22) entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations". Subsequently, Colombia, Grenada*, India, Lebanon, Namibia* and Togo joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

58. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, Algeria joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

59. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution by a recorded vote of 24 to none, with 19 abstentions. See Council resolution 1998/38. The voting was as follows:[2]

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, El Salvador, Guyana, India, Lesotho, Mexico, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Viet Nam.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

60. After the draft resolution was adopted, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement.

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people

61. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people. See Council decision 1998/282.

E. Regional cooperation

62. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of regional cooperation (agenda item 10) at its 34th and 35th meetings, on 20 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.34 and 35). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Summary of the economic survey of Europe, 1997 (E/1998/11);

(b) Summary of the survey of the economic and social situation in Africa, 1998 (E/1998/12);

(c) Summary of the economic and social survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1998 (E/1998/13);

(d) Summary of the economic survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1997 (E/1998/14);

(e) Summary of the survey of the economic and social developments in the ESCWA region, 1997–1998 (E/1998/15);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (E/1998/65 and Add.1-3).

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[2] The delegation of Lebanon subsequently indicated that, had it been present during the voting, it would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

63. At the 34th meeting, on 17 July, the Council held a panel discussion with the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions.

Action taken by the Council

64. Under agenda item 10, the Council adopted resolutions 1998/3 to 1998/6 and decisions 1998/213 and 1998/214.

Recommendations made by the regional commissions

65. The recommendations made to the Council by the regional commissions are contained in an addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (E/1998/65/Add.2).

Review of the regional commissions by the Economic and Social Council

66. At the 35th meeting, on 20 July, the Council adopted a draft resolution entitled "Review of the regional commissions by the Economic and Social Council", recommended by the Economic Commission for Europe (E/1998/65/Add.2, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1998/3.

Strengthening regional support for persons with disabilities into the twenty-first century

67. At the 35th meeting, on 20 July, the Council adopted a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening regional support for persons with disabilities into the twenty-first century", recommended by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (E/1998/65/Add.2, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/4.

Venue of the twenty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

68. At the 35th meeting, on 20 July, the Council adopted a draft decision entitled "Venue of the twenty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, recommended by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (E/1998/65/Add.2, chap. I, sect. C). See Council decision 1998/213.

Relationships between the Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations agencies, and regional and subregional organizations in Africa

69. At the 35th meeting, on 20 July, the Council adopted draft resolution I entitled "Relationships between the Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations agencies, and regional and subregional organizations in Africa", recommended by the Economic Commission for Africa (E/1998/65/Add.2, chap. I, sect. D). See Council resolution 1998/5.

Revision of the medium-term plan, 1998–2001, of the Economic Commission for Africa

70. At the 35th meeting, on 20 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II entitled "Revision of the medium-term plan, 1998–2001, of the Economic Commission for Africa", recommended by the Economic Commission for Africa (E/1998/65/Add.2, chap. I, sect. D). See Council resolution 1998/6.

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of regional cooperation

71. At the 35th meeting, on 20 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of documents considered in connection with the question of regional cooperation. See Council decision 1998/214.

72. At the 35th meeting, on 20 July, after the adoption of all draft proposals, statements were made by the observers for Austria (on behalf of the State Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

F. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

73. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (agenda item 11) at its 39th, 40th, 42nd and 45th meetings, on 23, 27 and 29 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.39, 40, 42 and 45). The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/53/163-E/1998/79).

Action taken by the Council

74. Under agenda item 11, the Council adopted resolution 1998/32 and decision 1998/239.

Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

75. At the 42nd meeting, on 27 July, the representative of Jordan, also on behalf of Algeria, Bangladesh, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt*, Malaysia*, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates*, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.26) entitled "Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan". Colombia, Indonesia*, Morocco* and Oman subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

76. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution by a recorded vote of 44 to 1, with no abstentions. See Council resolution 1998/32. The voting was as follows:

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Djibouti, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Guyana, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

77. Before the draft resolution was adopted, the representative of the United States of America made a statement. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement.

Note by the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

78. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/53/163-E/1998/79). See Council decision 1998/239.

G. Non-governmental organizations

79. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of non-governmental organizations (agenda item 12) at its 45th meeting, on 29 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1998/SR.45). It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the Secretariat (E/1998/43 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its resumed 1997 session (E/1998/8);

(c) Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the first and second parts of its 1998 session (E/1998/72 and Add.1).

Action taken by the Council

80. Under agenda item 12, the Council adopted decisions 1998/231 to 1998/238.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its resumed 1997 session (E/1998/8)

Enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

81. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/8, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1998/231.

Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

82. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/8, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1998/232.

Applications from organizations of indigenous people not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for participation in the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people

83. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted draft decision III, entitled "Applications from organizations of indigenous people not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for participation in the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/8, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1998/233.

Expansion of the participation of non-governmental organizations on the Roster for the purposes of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development

84. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted draft decision IV, entitled "Expansion of the participation of non-governmental organizations on the Roster for the purposes of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/8, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1998/234.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the first part of its 1998 session (E/1998/72)

Applications for consultative status received from non-governmental organizations

85. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council considered draft decision I, entitled "Applications for consultative status received from non-governmental organizations", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/72, chap. I, sect. A).

86. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1998/235.

87. Before the adoption of the draft decision, the representative of Turkey made a statement. After the adoption of the draft decision, the observer for Armenia made a statement.

Implementation of Economic and Social Council decision 1996/302

88. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Implementation of Economic and Social Council decision 1996/302", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/72, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1998/236.

Applications from organizations of indigenous people not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for participation in the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people

89. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted draft decision III, entitled "Applications from organizations of indigenous people not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for participation in the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/72, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1998/233.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the second part of its 1998 session (E/1998/72/Add.1)

Applications for consultative status received from non-governmental organizations

90. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Applications for consultative status received from non-governmental organizations", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/72/Add.1, chap. I). See Council decision 1998/235.

Resumed 1998 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

91. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the Council considered draft decision II, entitled "Resumed 1998 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/72/Add.1, chap. I). The Council was informed that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

92. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1998/237.

Documents considered in connection with the question of non-governmental organizations

93. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of reports considered in connection with the question of non-governmental organizations. See Council decision 1998/238.

H. Economic and environmental questions

94. At its substantive session, the Council considered economic and environmental questions (agenda item 13) at its 39th, 40th and 45th to 47th meetings, on 23 and 29 to 31 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.39, 40 and 45-47). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Proposals from subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council on social and human rights questions (E/1998/59);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (E/1998/88);

(c) Letter dated 13 July 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Vanuatu to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council on the proposed graduation of Vanuatu from the list of the least developed countries (E/1998/89);

(d) Statement submitted by the International Multiracial Shared Cultural Organization, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/NGO/5).

Action taken by the Council

95. Under agenda item 13, the Council adopted decisions 1998/283 and 1998/291.

Report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

96. At the 45th meeting, on 29 July, the representative of Mozambique introduced a draft decision (E/1998/L.33) entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa. Subsequently, the United States of America joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

97. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), orally revised the draft decision on the basis of informal consultations.

98. At the same meeting, the Council adopted draft decision E/1998/L.33, as orally revised. See Council decision 1998/283.

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of economic and environmental questions

99. At the 47th meeting on 31 July, the Council, on the proposal of the President, took note of documents considered in connection with the question of economic and environmental questions. See Council decision 1998/291.

100. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Canada and China and by the observers for Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

1. Sustainable development

101. The Council considered the question of sustainable development (agenda item 13 (a)) at its 39th, 40th, 42nd, 44th and 46th meetings, on 23, 27, 28 and 30 July 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.39, 40, 42, 44 and 46). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the development of a vulnerability index for small island developing States (A/53/65-E/1998/5);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment (A/53/156-E/1998/78);

(c) Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its sixth session (E/1998/29);[3]

(d) Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-second session (E/1998/34);[4]

(e) Note by the Secretary-General on consumer protection and guidelines for sustainable development (E/1998/63);

(f) Statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/NGO/1);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on consumer protection: guidelines for sustainable consumption (E/CN.17/1998/5).

Action taken by the Council

102. Under agenda item 13 (a), the Council adopted resolutions 1998/39, 1998/40 and 1998/41 and decisions 1998/215, 1998/216 and 1998/217.

Consumer protection guidelines for sustainable consumption

103. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Consumer protection guidelines for sustainable consumption", recommended by the Commission (E/1998/29, chap. I). See Council decision 1998/215.

Matters relating to the third session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests

104. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Matters relating to the third session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests", recommended by the Commission (E/1998/29, chap. I). See Council decision 1998/216.

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its sixth session and provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Commission

105. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the Council adopted draft decision III, entitled "Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its sixth session and provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Commission", recommended by the Commission (E/1998/29, chap. I). See Council decision 1998/217.

Status of the least developed countries

106. At the 42nd meeting, on 27 July, the Observer for Indonesia*, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and Canada and New Zealand, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.27) entitled "Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-second session", which read as follows:

> "*The Economic and Social Council,*

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[3] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9.*

[4] Ibid., *Supplement No. 14.*

* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

“*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 52/210 of 18 December 1997 regarding the necessity of assessing the usefulness of a vulnerability index as a criterion for the designation of least developed countries,

“*Taking note* of paragraph 167 of the report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-second session, which states that the Committee did not undertake such an assessment,

“*Taking note also* of the content of the letter of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu, which was circulated as a document of the Economic and Social Council, advancing reasons to support the position that the review of Vanuatu's status should be deferred to the year 2000,

“1. *Affirms* the need for such an assessment to be made as a precursor to a decision on the graduation of Vanuatu from the list of least developed countries;

“2. *Requests* the Committee for Development Planning to provide to the Economic and Social Council a report on the usefulness of a vulnerability index as a criterion for the designation of least developed countries;

“3. *Further requests* the Committee for Development Planning to include in its report consideration of the findings of the work of all relevant international agencies on the vulnerability of small island developing States;

“4. *Decides* to postpone a decision on the graduation of Vanuatu until the Committee for Development Planning has completed its work on examining the usefulness of a vulnerability index as a criterion for the designation of least developed countries.”

107. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.39) entitled “Status of the least developed countries”, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1998/L.27.

108. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/39.

109. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the observer for Indonesia made a statement on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representative of the United States of America and by the observer for Vanuatu.

110. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1998/L.39, draft resolution E/1997/L.27 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

Declaring the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism

111. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the observer for Indonesia[*], on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.28) entitled “Declaring the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism”. Subsequently, Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

112. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Vice-president of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), orally revised the draft resolution on the basis of informal consultations.

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[*] In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

113. The Observer for the Philippines[*], proposed an amendment, which was seconded by the representative of Turkey. The Council then adopted draft resolution E/1998/L.28 as orally revised and amended. See Council resolution 1998/40.

Protection against products harmful to health and the environment

114. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the observer for Indonesia[*], on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.29) entitled "Protection against products harmful to health and the environment", which read as follows:

> "*The Economic and Social Council,*
>
> "*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 37/137 of 17 December 1982, 38/149 of 19 December 1983, 39/229 of 18 December 1984 and 44/226 of 22 December 1989, as well as Assembly decisions 47/439 of 22 December 1992 and 50/431 of 20 December 1995,
>
> "*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment, which contains a review of the sales publication *Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale have been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or not Approved by Governments*,
>
> "*Noting with satisfaction* the continued close collaboration among the United Nations, the World Health Organization and United Nations Environment Programme in the preparation of the Consolidated List,
>
> "*Taking into account* the need to continue to utilize the work being undertaken by relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations in this area, as well as that being carried out under international agreements and conventions in related areas in updating the Consolidated List,
>
> "*Taking note* of the successful conclusion of the negotiations to develop a legally binding instrument for the application of the prior informed consent procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade,
>
> "1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment and notes the progress being achieved in increasing the number of countries that participate in the preparation of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale have been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or not Approved by Governments;
>
> "2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the cooperation extended by Governments in the preparation of the Consolidated List and urges all Governments, in particular those that have not yet done so, to provide the necessary information to relevant organizations for inclusion in future issues of the Consolidated List;
>
> "3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to prepare the Consolidated List focusing on chemicals and pharmaceutical products in alternate years, with the same frequency for each official language in publishing the Consolidated List as envisioned in General Assembly resolutions 39/229 and 44/226;
>
> "4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary technical assistance to developing countries, at their request, for the establishment

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[*] In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

and/or strengthening of national capacity for managing hazardous chemicals and pharmaceutical products;

"5. *Urges* the adoption of the agreed text of the convention on the application of the prior informed consent procedure at the diplomatic conference to be held in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, and a speedy ratification thereafter;

"6. *Invites* the Trade and Environment Committee of the World Trade Organization to complete its review, for possible revival, of the domestically prohibited goods notification system;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report every three years, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/229, on the implementation of the present resolution and of previous Assembly resolutions on the same subject."

115. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.34) entitled "Products harmful to health and the environment", on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1998/L.29.

116. At the same meeting, the Council adopted draft resolution E/1998/L.34. See Council resolution 1998/41.

117. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1998/L.34, draft resolution E/1998/L.29 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

2. Natural resources

118. The Council had no documents before it under this question (item 13 (b)). No proposals were submitted under the item.

3. Energy

119. The Council had no documents before it under this question (item 13 (c)). No proposals were submitted under the item.

4. International cooperation in tax matters

120. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of international cooperation in tax matters (agenda item 13 (d)) at its 39th and 40th meetings, on 23 July 1998. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the Eighth Meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (E/1998/57).

Action taken by the Council

121. Under agenda item 13 (d), the Council adopted decision 1998/218.

Ninth Meeting of the Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

122. At the 40th meeting, the Council adopted the recommendation made by the Eighth Meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters regarding the dates of the Ninth Meeting, in 1999 (E/1998/57, para. 51). See Council decision 1998/218.

5. Public administration and finance

123. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of public administration and finance (agenda item 13 (e)) at its 39th and 40th meetings, on 23 July 1998. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/225 (A/53/173-E/1998/87);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Fourteenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance (E/1998/77).

Action taken by the Council

124. Under agenda item 13 (e), the Council adopted decisions 1998/219 and 1998/220.

Fifteenth meeting of Experts in Public Administration and Finance

125. At the 40th meeting, the Council adopted the recommendation made by the Fourteenth Meeting of Experts in Public Administration and Finance regarding the dates of its Fifteenth Meeting, in 2000 (E/1998/77, para. 3). See Council decision 1998/219.

Assessment of progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/225

126. At the 40th meeting, the Council adopted the recommendation made by the Fourteenth Meeting of Experts in Public Administration and Finance regarding the assessment of progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/225 (E/1998/77, para. 4). See Council decision 1998/220.

6. Cartography

127. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of cartography (agenda item 13 (f)) at its 39th and 40th meetings, on 23 July 1998. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 6 February 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the text of a letter of the same date from His Excellency, Mr. Aytuğ Plümer addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/788-E/1998/6);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (E/1998/47).

Action taken by the Council

128. Under agenda item 13 (f), the Council adopted decision 1998/221.

Recommendations of the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

129. At the 40th meeting, the Council adopted the recommendations made by the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (E/1998/47, para. 12 (a)–(c)). See Council decision 1998/221.

7. Population and development

130. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of population and development (agenda item 13 (g)) at is 39th and 40th meetings, on 23 July 1998. It had before it the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-first session (E/1998/25).[5]

Action taken by the Council

131. Under agenda item 13 (g), the Council adopted resolutions 1998/7 and 1998/8 and decision 1998/222.

Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

132. At the 40th meeting, the Council adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", recommended by the Commission on Population and Development (E/1998/25, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1998/7.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

133. At the 40th meeting, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", recommended by the Commission on Population and Development (E/1998/25, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1998/8.

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-first session and provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission

134. At the 40th meeting, the Council considered the draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-first session and provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission", recommended by the Commission on Population and Development (E/1998/25, chap. I, sect. B).

135. The Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs recommended that, under item 4 of the proposed agenda for the thirty-second session, the reference to the report of the ACC Task Force on Basic Social Services for All be deleted.

136. At the 40th meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision as amended. See Council decision 1998/222.

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[5] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 5*

I. Social and human rights questions

137. The Council considered social and human rights questions at its organizational session (agenda item 5), resumed organizational session (agenda item 8) and substantive session (agenda items 14 (a) to (g)) at its 3rd, 5th, 44th and 46th to 49th meetings, on 6 February, 7 May and 28, 30 and 31 July and 5 August 1998. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.3, 5, 44 and 46-49). The Council had before it a note by the Secretariat containing a list of proposals requiring action by the Council or brought to its attention (E/1998/59) as well as the following documents:

Advancement of women (agenda items 8 and 14 (a)):

(a) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the work of its eighteenth session (A/53/36 (Part I));[6]

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of the revised system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996–2001 (E/1998/10);

(c) Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-second session (E/1998/27 and Corr.1);[7]

(d) Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its eighteenth session (E/1998/46);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (E/1998/53);

(f) Statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/NGO/2);

(g) Statement submitted by the World Veterans Federation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/NGO/6);

(h) Statement submitted by the Society for Post-Traumatic Stress Studies, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/NGO/7);

Social development (agenda item 14 (b)):

(i) Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-sixth session (E/1998/26);[8]

(j) Statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/NGO/3);

(k) Statement submitted by the World Veterans Federation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/NGO/6);

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[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 36.*

[7] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum.

[8] Ibid., *Supplement No. 6.*

Crime prevention and criminal justice (agenda item 14 (c)):

(l) Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its seventh session (E/1998/30 and Corr.1);[9]

Narcotic drugs (agenda item 14 (d)):

(m) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (A/53/129-E/1998/58);

(n) Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-first session (E/1998/28)[10]

(o) Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1997 (E/INCB/1997/1);

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (agenda item 14 (e)):

(p) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/1998/7 and Corr.1);[11]

(q) Letter dated 27 July 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/93).

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (Agenda item 14 (f)):

(r) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1998/51);

Human rights (agenda items 5 and 14 (g)):[12]

(s) Letter dated 15 April 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/1998/18);

(t) Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions (E/1998/22);[13]

(u) Letter dated 12 May 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/1998/49);

(v) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the general comments of the Human Rights Committee (E/1998/74);

(w) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (E/1998/84);

(x) Note by the Secretary-General on privileges and immunities of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the independence of judges and lawyers (E/1998/94);

(y) Letter dated 29 July 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/95);

(z) Statement of the administrative and programme budget implications of the draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Economic and Social Council in documents

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[9] Ibid., *Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum.

[10] Ibid., *Supplement No. 8*.

[11] To be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 12*.

[12] The report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (A/53/41) was not made available to the Council in time for its consideration of the item at its substantive session.

[13] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 2*.

E/1997/L.23 and Add.2 and E/1998/22, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council (E/1998/L.4);

(aa) Compendium of draft proposals from subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/L.23 and Add.2);

(bb) Extract from the report of the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fourth session (E/1998/L.24);

(cc) Statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1998/NGO/4).

Action taken by the Council

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with social and human rights questions

138. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of a number of reports under item 14. See Council decision 1998/294.

1. Advancement of women

139. Under agenda items 8 and 14 (a), the Council adopted resolutions 1998/2, 1998/9 to 1998/12 and 1998/48 and decision 1998/224.

Action taken by the Council

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-second session (E/1998/27 and Corr.1)

Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

140. At the 5th meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Council considered a draft resolution (reproduced in document E/1998/L.8) entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Committee for the High-level Review in the Year 2000 of the Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Beijing Platform for Action (E/1998/27, chap. I, sect. A).

141. At the same meeting, the Council approved the draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1998/2.

Situation of women and girls in Afghanistan

142. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Situation of women and girls in Afghanistan", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1998/27, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/9.

Palestinian women

143. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council voted on draft resolution II, entitled "Palestinian women", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women

(E/1998/27, chap. I, sect. B). The draft resolution was adopted by a recorded vote of 40 to 1, with 2 abstentions. See Council resolution 1998/10. The voting was as follows:[14]

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Djibouti, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Guyana, India, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Colombia, Iceland.

144. Before the draft resolution was adopted, the representative of the United States of America made a statement.

Mid-term review of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, including the status of women in the Secretariat

145. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Mid-term review of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, including the status of women in the Secretariat", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1998/27, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/11.

Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action

146. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution IV, entitled "Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on the critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1998/27 and Corr.1, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/12.

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-second session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-third session of the Commission

147. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted a draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-second session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-third session of the Commission", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1998/27, chap. I, sect. C). See Council decision 1998/224.

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

148. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the observer for Indonesia*, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (E/1998/L.36) entitled "International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women". Subsequently, Austria*, Italy, the Netherlands*, Portugal*, Spain and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

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[14] The delegations of Jordan, Togo and Tunisia subsequently stated that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

149. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/48.

150. After the draft resolution was adopted, statements were made by the observers for Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77) and Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union).

2. Social development

151. Under agenda item 14 (b), the Council adopted decisions 1998/225 and 1998/226.

Action taken by the Council

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-sixth session (E/1998/26)

Activities of the Consultative Group for the International Year of Older Persons

152. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Activities of the Consultative Group for the International Year of Older Persons", recommended by the Commission for Social Development (E/1998/26, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1998/225.

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-sixth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission

153. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-sixth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission", recommended by the Commission for Social Development (E/1998/26, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1998/226.

3. Crime prevention and criminal justice

154. Under agenda item 14 (c), the Council adopted resolutions 1998/13 to 1998/24 and decisions 1998/227 and 1998/228.

Action taken by the Council

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its seventh session (E/1998/30 and Corr.1)

Preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

155. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council considered draft resolution I, entitled "Preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30 and Corr.1, chap. I, sect. A). The Council was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

156. At the same meeting, the Council approved the draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1998/13.

Transnational organized crime

157. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council considered draft resolution II, entitled "Transnational organized crime", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30 and Corr.1, chap. I, sect. A). The attention of the Council was drawn to the statement of programme budget implications contained in annex II to the report of the Commission.

158. At the same meeting, the Council approved the draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1998/14.

Mutual assistance and international cooperation in criminal matters

159. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council approved draft resolution III, entitled "Mutual assistance and international cooperation in criminal matters", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. A) for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1998/15.

Action against corruption

160. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Action against corruption", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/16.

Regulation of explosives for the purpose of crime prevention and public health and safety

161. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Regulation of explosives for the purpose of crime prevention and public health and safety", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/17.

Measures to regulate firearms for the purpose of combating illicit trafficking in firearms

162. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Measures to regulate firearms for the purpose of combating illicit trafficking in firearms", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/18.

Action against illegal trafficking in migrants, including by sea

163. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution IV, entitled "Action against illegal trafficking in migrants, including by sea", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30 and Corr.1, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/19.

Action to combat international trafficking in women and children

164. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution V, entitled "Action to combat international trafficking in women and children", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, Chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/20.

United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

165. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VI, entitled "United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/21.

Status of foreign citizens in criminal proceedings

166. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VII, entitled "Status of foreign citizens in criminal proceedings", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/22.

International cooperation aimed at the reduction of prison overcrowding and the promotion of alternative sentencing

167. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VIII, entitled "International cooperation aimed at the reduction of prison overcrowding and the promotion of alternative sentencing", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1998/23.

Technical cooperation and advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice

168. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council considered draft resolution IX, entitled "Technical cooperation and advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. B). The attention of the Council was drawn to the statement of programme budget implications contained in annex II to the report of the Commission (E/1998/30).

169. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/24.

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its seventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the eighth session of the Commission

170. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its seventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the eighth session of the Commission", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. C). See Council decision 1998/227.

Appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

171. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1998/30, chap. I, sect. C). See Council decision 1998/228.

4. Narcotic drugs

172. Under agenda item 14 (d), the Council adopted resolution 1998/25 and decisions 1998/229, 1998/230 and 1998/240.

Action taken by the Council

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-first session (E/1998/29)

Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs

173. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted a draft resolution entitled "Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs", recommended by the Commission on narcotic Drugs (E/1998/28, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1998/25.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

174. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs", recommended by the Commission (E/1998/28, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/229.

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

175. At the 44th meeting, on 28 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Report of the International Narcotics Control Board", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1998/28, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/230.

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

176. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision III, entitled "Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1998/28, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/240.

5. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

177. No proposals were submitted under this question (item 14 (e)).

6. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

178. No proposals were submitted under this question (item 14 (f)).

7. Human rights

Action taken by the Council at its organizational and resumed organizational sessions

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session

179. Pursuant to its decision 1997/321 of 18 December 1997, the Council, at its 3rd and 5th meetings, on 6 February and 7 May 1998, considered four draft decisions, recommended for adoption by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its sixteenth session. The texts of the draft decisions were contained in the compendium of draft proposals from subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/L.23 and Add.2). A statement of programme budget implications of the draft decisions was contained in document E/1998/L.4.

180. At the 3rd meeting, on 6 February, the Council decided to postpone consideration of the four draft decisions to its resumed organizational session. See Council decision 1998/210 A.

181. At the 5th meeting, on 7 May, the Council decided to postpone consideration of three draft decisions contained in document E/1998/L.23 to a future session, together with the statement of programme budget implications contained in document E/1998/L.4. See Council decision 1998/210 B.

182. The Council took no action with respect to the draft decision entitled "Extraordinary additional session of the pre-sessional working group of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (20–24 April 1998)", contained in document E/1998/L.23/Add.2. See Council decision 1998/210 B.

Action taken by the Council at its substantive session

183. Under agenda item 14 (g), the Council adopted resolutions 1998/33 to 1998/35 and decisions 1998/241 to 1998/281, 1998/292 and 1998/293.

Recommendations contained in the extract from the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its 54th session (E/1998/L.24)

Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms

184. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1998/33.

Working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994

185. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1998/34.

Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

186. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1998/35.

The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

187. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council voted on draft decision 1, entitled "The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a recorded vote of 26 to 13, with 7 abstentions. See Council decision 1998/241. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

> Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, El Salvador, Guyana, India, Jordan , Lebanon, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Turkey, Viet Nam.

Against:

> Belgium, Canada, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Nicaragua, Poland, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

> Belarus, Czech Republic, France, Latvia, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Romania.

Adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights

188. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council voted on draft decision 2, entitled "Adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a recorded vote of 26 to 20, with 2 abstentions. See Council decision 1998/242. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

> Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, El Salvador, Guyana, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Viet Nam.

Against:

Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Cape Verde, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Latvia, Republic of Korea.

Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

189. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 3, entitled "Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/243.

Migrants and human rights

190. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 4, entitled "Migrants and human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/244.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

191. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 5, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/245.

Rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities

192. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 6, entitled "Rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic religious and linguistic minorities", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/246.

A permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system

193. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 7, entitled "A permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/247.

The right to food

194. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 8, entitled "The right to food", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/248.

Effects on the full enjoyment of human rights of the economic adjustment policies arising from foreign debt and, in particular, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development

195. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council voted on draft decision 9, entitled "Effects on the full enjoyment of human rights of the economic adjustment policies arising from foreign debt and, in particular, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a recorded vote of 22 to 19, with 7 abstentions. See Council decision 1998/249. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

> Algeria, Bangladesh, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, Guyana, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Viet Nam.

Against:

> Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

> Argentina, Brazil, Chile, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Republic of Korea.

Human rights and extreme poverty

196. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 10, entitled "Human rights and extreme poverty", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/250.

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances

197. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 11, entitled "Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/251.

Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

198. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 12, entitled "Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/252.

Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights

199. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 13, entitled "Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the

developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision E/1998/253.

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

200. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 14, entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision E/1998/254.

Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances

201. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 15, entitled "Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision E/1998/255.

The right to restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for victims of grave violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms

202. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 16, entitled "The right to restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for victims of grave violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/256

Internally displaced persons

203. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 17, entitled "Internally displaced person", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision E/1998/257.

National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

204. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 18, entitled "National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/258.

Situation of human rights in Cambodia

205. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 19, entitled "Situation of human rights in Cambodia", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/259.

Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

206. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 20, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/260.

207. Before the draft decision was adopted, a statement was made by the representative of Japan. After the draft decision was adopted, a statement was made by the observer for the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Situation of human rights in Myanmar

208. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 21, entitled "Situation of human rights in Myanmar", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/261.

Situation of human rights in Nigeria

209. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 22, entitled "Situation of human rights in Nigeria", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/262.

Situation of human rights in Iraq

210. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council voted on draft decision 23, entitled "Situation of human rights in Iraq", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a recorded vote of 27 to none, with 18 abstentions. See Council decision 1998/263. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

> Argentina, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against:

> None.

Abstaining:

> Algeria, Bangladesh, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, Guyana,[15] India, Jordan, Lebanon, Mozambique, Pakistan, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Tunisia, Viet Nam.

211. Before the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representative of the United States of America and by the observer for Iraq.

Situation of human rights in the Sudan

212. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 24, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Sudan", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/264.

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

213. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 25, entitled "Extrajudicial, summary of arbitrary executions", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/265.

Situation of human rights in Rwanda

214. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 26, entitled "Situation of human rights in Rwanda", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/266.

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[15] The delegation of Guyana subsequently stated that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft decision, and not against it.

Situation of human rights in Afghanistan

215. At the 27th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 27, entitled "Situation of human rights in Afghanistan", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/267.

Situation of human rights in Equatorial Guinea and assistance in the field of human rights

216. At the 46 the meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 28, entitled "Situation of human rights in Equatorial Guinea and assistance in the field of human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/268.

The right to development

217. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 29, entitled "The right to development", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/269.

Human rights and thematic procedures

218. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 30, entitled "Human rights and thematic procedures", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/270.

Rights of the child

219. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 31, entitled "Rights of the child", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/271.

Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

220. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 32, entitled "Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/272.

221. After the adoption of the draft decision, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement.

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

222. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council voted on draft decision 33, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a recorded vote of 25 to 8, with 11 abstentions. See Council decision 1998/273. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

> Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Guyana, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against:

Bangladesh, China, Cuba, India, Jordan, Oman, Pakistan, Viet Nam.

Abstaining:

Belarus, Cape Verde, Colombia, Djibouti, Mexico, Mozambique, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Tunisia.

223. Before the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representative of Lebanon and by the observer for the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Situation of human rights in Burundi

224. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 34, entitled "Situation of human rights in Burundi", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/274.

Question of resources for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the human rights activities of the United Nations

225. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 35, entitled "Question of resources for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the human rights activities of the United Nations", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect B). See Council decision 1998/275.

Effects of structural adjustment policies on the full enjoyment of human rights

226. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council voted on draft decision 36, entitled "Effects of structural adjustment policies on the full enjoyment of human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a recorded vote of 28 to 18, with 1 abstention. See Council decision 1998/276. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, El Salvador, Guyana, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Viet Nam.

Against:

Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, New Zealand, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Poland.

Protection of the heritage of indigenous people

227. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 37, entitled "Protection of the heritage of indigenous people", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/277.

Freedom of movement and population transfer

228. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council considered draft decision 38, entitled "Freedom of movement and population transfer", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B).

229. At the same meeting the representative of Jordan proposed the following amendments:

(a) In the fourth line, the word "final" should be deleted;

(b) In the last line, the reference to the document symbol E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/23 should be deleted.

230. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, Lebanon, Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Canada, as well as by the representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

231. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Council adopted the draft decision as orally amended. See Council decision 1998/292.

232. After the adoption of the draft decision, statements were made by the representatives of Lebanon, Jordan and Canada and by the observers for Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Nigeria.

Human rights and terrorism

233. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council voted on draft decision 39, entitled "Human rights and terrorism", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a recorded vote of 23 to none, with 22 abstentions. See Council decision 1998/278. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, El Salvador, Guyana, India, Lesotho, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Viet Nam.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

234. Before the adoption of the draft decision, a statement was made by the representative of Mexico.

Question of human rights and states of emergency

235. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 40, entitled "Question of human rights and states of emergency", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/279.

Dates of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights

236. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 41, entitled "Organization of the work of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights",

recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/280.

Organization of the work of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights

237. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council adopted draft decision 42, entitled "Organization of the work of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1998/L.24, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1998/281.

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238. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, after the adoption of the draft resolutions and decisions, statements were made by the representative of Cuba and by the observer for Austria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union).

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

239. At the 46th meeting, on 30 July, the Council considered four draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions. The texts of the decisions were contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions (see E/1998/22). A statement of the programme budget implications of the draft decisions, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council, was circulated in document E/1998/L.4.

Consideration by the Economic and Social Council of the draft recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session

240. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft decision (E/1998/L.48) entitled "Consideration by the Economic and Social Council of the draft recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

241. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1998/293.

Chapter IX

Elections, appointments, nominations and confirmations

The Council considered the question of elections, appointments, nominations and confirmations at its organizational and resumed organizational sessions (agenda item 7) and its substantive session (agenda item 1). The question was considered at the 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 47th meetings, on 3 and 6 February, 7 May and 31 July 1998. An account of the proceedings is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1998/SR.2, 3, 5 and 47). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Annotated provisional agenda for the organizational session for 1998 (E/1998/2/Add.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on elections and nominations postponed from previous sessions (E/1998/L.1);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of nine members of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/1998/L.1/Add.1 and Corr.1, Add.14 and Add.16);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of 11 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund (E/1998/L.1/Add.2);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of members of the functional commissions of the Council (E/1998/L.1/Add.3);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of six members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (E/1998/L.1/Add.4);

(g) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of 20 members of the Commission on Human Settlements (E/1998/L.1/Add.5);

(h) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (E/1998/L.1/Add.6);

(i) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of 11 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (E/1998/L.1/Add.7);

(j) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of eight members of the Programme Coordination Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) (E/1998/L.1/Add.8);

(k) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of the 19 members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/L.1/Add.9);

(l) Note by the Secretary-General on the appointment of three members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (E/1998/L.1/Add.10 and Add.15);

(m) Note by the Secretary-General on the appointment of members of the Committee for Development Planning (E/1998/L.1/Add.11);

(n) Note by the Secretary-General on elections to the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development (E/1998/L.1/Add.12 and Add.17);

(o) Note by the Secretary-General on elections to the Committee on Natural Resources (E/1998/L.1/Add.13);

(p) Note by the Secretary-General on the confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions of the Council (E/1998/L.2 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2).

Action taken by the Council

Under the item on elections, the Council adopted decisions 1998/202 A, B and C.

Chapter X
Organizational matters

1. The Council held its organizational session for 1998 at United Nations Headquarters on 22 January and 3 and 6 February 1998 (1st to 3rd meetings), a special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions on 18 April (4th meeting), a resumed organizational session at United Nations Headquarters on 7 May (5th meeting), a session on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits from 13 to 15 May (6th to 11th meetings) and its substantive session at United Nations Headquarters from 6 to 31 July and on 5 August 1998 (12th to 49th meetings). An account of the proceedings is contained in the summary records (E/1998/SR.1-49).

A. Action taken by the Council

2. At its organizational session for 1998, the Council adopted one resolution and nine decisions concerning organizational matters. See Council resolution 1998/1 and decisions 1998/201 and 1998/203 to 1998/210.

3. At its resumed organizational session for 1998, the Council adopted one decision on organizational matters. See Council decision 1998/211.

4. At its substantive session of 1998, the Council adopted four decisions concerning organizational matters. See Council decisions 1998/212, 1998/223, 1998/295 and 1998/298.

B. Proceedings

5. The 1st meeting, on 22 January, was opened by the President of the Economic and Social Council for 1997 Vladimir Galuska (Czech Republic). Upon election, the President of the Council for 1998, Juan Somavía (Chile), made a statement.

1. Bureau of the Council

6. Pursuant to paragraph 2 (k) of its resolution 1988/77, the Council met on 22 January for the purpose of electing its Bureau.

7. At the 1st meeting, the Council elected, by acclamation, Paolo Fulci (Italy), Anwarul Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Roble Olhaye (Djibouti) and Alyaksandr Sychou (Belarus) Vice-Presidents of the Council for 1998.

2. Agenda of the organizational session for 1998

8. The Council considered the agenda of its organizational session at the 1st meeting, on 22 January. It had before it the annotated provisional agenda (E/1998/2 and Corr.1).

9. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the agenda of the organizational session (see annex I to the present report).

10. At the 3rd meeting, on 6 February, on the recommendation of the President, the Council decided to include in the provisional agenda of the resumed organizational session for 1998 the item entitled "Social and human rights questions: advancement of women". See Council decision 1998/203.

3. Basic programme of work for 1998 and 1999

11. The Council considered its basic programme of work for 1998 and 1999 at the 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 3 and 6 February. It had before it a note by the Secretary-General containing the basic programme of work for 1998 and 1999 (E/1998/1).

12. At the 2nd meeting, on 3 February, the Vice-President of the Council, Anwarul Chowdhury (Bangladesh), made a statement on the informal consultations held on the basic programme of work for 1998 and 1999. On the recommendation of the President, the Council adopted an oral decision on the question of regional cooperation. See Council decision 1998/201.

13. At the 3rd meeting, on 6 February, the Council had before it the draft proposals on the basic programme of work for 1998 and 1999 submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Chowdhury (Bangladesh) (E/1998/L.6). Mr. Chowdhury made a statement on the informal consultations held on the outstanding issues before the organizational session.

14. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decisions contained in document E/1998/L.6 and, on the recommendation of the President, three oral decisions. See Council decisions 1998/205 to 1998/209.

4. Provisional agenda for the 1998 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

15. At the 3rd meeting, on 6 February, the Council had before it a note by the Secretariat containing the provisional agenda for the 1998 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/L.3).

16. At the same meeting, the Council approved the provisional agenda. See Council decision 1998/204.

5. Proclamation of international years

17. At the 3rd meeting, on 6 February, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced a draft resolution entitled "Proclamation of international years" (E/1998/L.5). The Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1998/1.

6. Postponement of consideration of recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session*

18. At the 3rd meeting, on 6 February, on the recommendation of the President, the Council decided to postpone to its resumed organizational session consideration of the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session (see E/1998/L.23 and Add.2) and of the statement of the administrative and programme budget implications of those recommendations (E/1998/L.4). See Council decision 1998/210 A. At the 5th meeting, on 7 May, the Council postponed consideration of three of the recommendations and the related statement of administrative and programme budget implications, and decided to take no action on the fourth recommendation. See Council decision 210 B.

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* See also chap. VIII, paras. 179-182 and 239-241.

7. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

19. At the 5th meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Council had before it a draft decision entitled "Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees" (E/1998/L.7).

20. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1998/211.

8. Agenda of the substantive session of 1998

21. At the 12th meeting, on 6 July, the Council considered the agenda and organization of work of its substantive session of 1998. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Annotated provisional agenda (E/1998/100 and Add.1);

(b) Proposed programme of work for the substantive session (E/1998/L.9);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the session (E/1998/L.10/Rev.1).

22. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the agenda of the substantive session of 1998 (see annex I) and approved the organization of work of the session. See Council decision 1998/212, paragraph 1.

9. Requests by non-governmental organizations for hearings

23. At the 19th, 28th and 32nd meetings, on 9, 15 and 17 July, on the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1998/82 and Add.1 and 2), the Council approved requests made by non-governmental organizations to be heard by the Council at its substantive session of 1998. See Council decision 1998/212, paragraph 2.

10. Organizational meeting in 1998 of the Commission on Sustainable Development

24. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council authorized the Commission on Sustainable Development to convene an organizational meeting in 1998 for the purpose of holding elections to fill the two remaining posts of vice-chairmen at its seventh session. See Council decision 1998/223.

11. Dates of sessions of subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council in 1999

25. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Council had before it a draft decision entitled "Dates of sessions of subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council in 1999" (E/1998/L.44), submitted by the President of the Council. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1998/295.

12. Themes for the 1999 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

26. At the 47th meeting, on 31 July, the Council had before it a draft decision entitled "Themes for the 1999 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council" (E/1998/L.47), submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Chowdhury (Bangladesh).

27. At the 49th meeting, on 5 August, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1998/298.

Annex I

Agendas of the organizational and resumed organizational sessions for 1998 and the substantive session of 1998

Agenda of the organizational and resumed organizational sessions for 1998

Adopted by the Council at its 1st meeting, on 22 January 1998

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Proclamation of international years.
5. Reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies: human rights questions.
6. Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields.
7. Elections, nominations and confirmations.
8. Social and human rights questions: advancement of women.[a]

Agenda of the substantive session of 1998

Adopted by the Council at its 12th meeting, on 6 July 1998

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

High-level segment

2. Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization.

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

3. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:
   (a) Advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development;
   (b) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly;
   (c) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme.

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[a] Item included in the agenda of the resumed organizational session for 1998 in accordance with Council decision 1998/203.

Coordination segment

4. Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following theme: Coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

Humanitarian affairs segment

5. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.

General segment

6. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits.
7. Coordination, programme and other questions:
    (a) Reports of coordination bodies;
    (b) Malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera;
    (c) Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001;
    (d) International cooperation in the field of informatics;
    (e) Proclamation of an international year of mountains;
    (f) International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000.
8. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B.
9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.
10. Regional cooperation.
11. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.
12. Non-governmental organizations.
13. Economic and environmental questions:
    (a) Sustainable development;
    (b) Natural resources;
    (c) Energy;
    (d) International cooperation in tax matters;
    (e) Public administration and finance;
    (f) Cartography;
    (g) Population and development.
14. Social and human rights questions:
    (a) Advancement of women;
    (b) Social development;
    (c) Crime prevention and criminal justice;
    (d) Narcotic drugs;

(e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

(f) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

(g) Human rights.

Annex II

Composition of the Council and its subsidiary and related bodies

Economic and Social Council

(54 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*[a]	*Term expires on 31 December*
Algeria	Algeria	2000
Argentina	Belarus	2000
Bangladesh	Belgium	2000
Belarus	Brazil	2000
Belgium	Cape Verde	1999
Brazil	Chile	1999
Canada	Colombia	2000
Cape Verde	Comoros	2000
Central African Republic	Cuba	1999
Chile	Djibouti	1999
China	El Salvador	1999
Colombia	France	1999
Comoros	Gambia	1999
Cuba	Germany	1999
Czech Republic	Iceland	1999
Djibouti	India	2000
El Salvador	Italy	2000
Finland	Japan	1999
France	Latvia	1999
Gabon	Lesotho	2000
Gambia	Mauritius	2000
Germany	Mexico	1999
Guyana	Mozambique	1999
Iceland	New Zealand	2000
India	Oman	2000
Italy	Pakistan	2000
Japan	Poland	2000
Jordan	Republic of Korea	1999
Latvia	Saint Lucia	2000
Lebanon	Sierra Leone	2000
Lesotho	Spain	1999
Mauritius	Sri Lanka	1999
Mexico	Turkey	1999
Mozambique	United States of America	1999

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*[a]	*Term expires on 31 December*
New Zealand	Viet Nam	2000
Nicaragua	Zambia	1999
Oman		
Pakistan		
Poland		
Republic of Korea		
Romania		
Russian Federation		
Saint Lucia		
Sierra Leone		
Spain		
Sri Lanka		
Sweden		
Togo		
Tunisia		
Turkey		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		
United States of America		
Viet Nam		
Zambia		

Functional commissions and subcommissions

Statistical Commission

(24 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1998 and 1999	*Term expires on 31 December*
Argentina	2001
Australia	2001
Botswana	2001
Bulgaria	1999
China	1999
Colombia	1999
Côte d'Ivoire	2001
Czech Republic	2000
Germany	2001
Iceland	2001
India	2000
Jamaica	2000
Japan	2000
Mexico	2000
Netherlands	2000
Pakistan	1999
Portugal	2000
Romania	1999
Russian Federation	2001
Sudan	1999
Togo	1999
Tunisia	2001
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
United States of America	1999

Commission on Population and Development

(47 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*[b]	*Term expires on 31 December*
Algeria	Bangladesh	2000
Bangladesh	Belgium	2000
Belgium	Brazil	1999
Brazil	Bulgaria	1999
Bulgaria	Burundi	2002
Cameroon	Cameroon	2000
Canada	Canada	2000
China	Chile	2002
Congo	China	2001
Côte d'Ivoire	Côte d'Ivoire	2000
Egypt	Croatia	2002
El Salvador	Egypt	1999
Ethiopia	Ethiopia	2000
France	France	1999
Germany	Germany	2000
Hungary	Guinea	2002
India	Haiti	2002
Indonesia	Hungary	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	India	2001
Jamaica	Indonesia	1999
Japan	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2002
Kenya	Italy	2002
Malawi	Jamaica	2001
Malaysia	Japan	1999
Malta	Kenya	1999
Mexico	Malawi	2001
Netherlands	Malaysia	2000
Niger	Mexico	2001
Nigeria	Netherlands	1999
Panama	Niger	2001
Peru	Nigeria	2001
Philippines	Panama	2000
Republic of Korea	Philippines	2001
Russian Federation	Republic of Korea	2001
South Africa	Russian Federation	2001
Sudan	South Africa	2001
Sweden	Sudan	1999
Syrian Arab Republic	Sweden	2001
Thailand	Thailand	2000

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*[b]	*Term expires on 31 December*
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Turkey	2000
Turkey	Ukraine	2001
Ukraine	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2001
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United States of America	2001
United States of America	Yemen	2002

Commission for Social Development

(46 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*[c]	*Term expires on 31 December*
Argentina	Algeria	2002
Austria	Argentina	2002
Belarus	Belarus	1999
Benin	Cameroon	2000
Cameroon	Canada	2000
Canada	Chile	2000
Chile	China	2000
China	Croatia	2002
Cuba	Cuba	2000
Dominican Republic	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2002
Ecuador	Dominican Republic	2002
Egypt	Ecuador	1999
Ethiopia	Finland	2000
Finland	France	1999
France	Gabon	1999
Gabon	Gambia	1999
Gambia	Germany	1999
Germany	Haiti	2002
Guatemala	India	2000
India	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2002
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Jamaica	2000
Jamaica	Japan	1999
Japan	Malawi	2000
Malawi	Malta	2000
Malaysia	Mauritania	1999
Malta	Nepal	1999
Mauritania	Netherlands	2000
Mongolia	Pakistan	2000
Nepal	Peru	1999
Netherlands	Philippines	2000
Norway	Poland	2000
Pakistan	Republic of Korea	1999
Peru	Romania	2000
Philippines	Russian Federation	1999
Poland	South Africa	2000
Republic of Korea	Spain	2002
Romania	Sudan	1999
Russian Federation	Sweden	2002
South Africa	Thailand	2002

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*[c]	*Term expires on 31 December*
Spain	Turkey	2002
Sudan	Uganda	2000
Togo	United States of America	1999
Uganda	Venezuela	1999
Ukraine		
United States of America		
Venezuela		

Commission on Human Rights

(53 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*	*Term expires on 31 December*
Argentina	Argentina	1999
Austria	Austria	1999
Bangladesh	Bangladesh	2000
Belarus	Bhutan	2000
Bhutan	Botswana	2000
Botswana	Canada	2000
Brazil	Cape Verde	1999
Cape Verde	Chile	2000
Canada	China	1999
Chile	Colombia	2001
China	Congo	2000
Congo	Cuba	2000
Cuba	Czech Republic	1999
Czech Republic	Democratic Republic of the Congo	1999
Democratic Republic of the Congo[c]	Ecuador	1999
Denmark	El Salvador	2000
Ecuador	France	2001
El Salvador	Germany	1999
France	Guatemala	2000
Germany	India	2000
Guatemala	Indonesia	1999
Guinea	Ireland	1999
India	Italy	1999
Indonesia	Japan	1999
Ireland	Latvia	2001
Italy	Liberia	2001
Japan	Luxembourg	2000
Luxembourg	Madagascar	2001
Madagascar	Mauritius	2001
Malaysia	Mexico	2001
Mali	Morocco	2000
Mexico	Mozambique	1999
Morocco	Nepal	2000
Mozambique	Niger	2001
Nepal	Norway	2001
Pakistan	Pakistan	2001
Peru	Peru	2000
Philippines	Philippines	2000
Poland	Poland	2000

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*	*Term expires on 31 December*
Republic of Korea	Qatar	2001
Russian Federation	Republic of Korea	2001
Rwanda	Romania	2001
Senegal	Russian Federation	2000
South Africa	Rwanda	2000
Sri Lanka	Senegal	2000
Sudan	South Africa	1999
Tunisia	Sri Lanka	2000
Uganda	Sudan	2000
Ukraine	Tunisia	2000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
United States of America	United States of America	2001
Uruguay	Uruguay	1999
Venezuela	Venezuela	2000

Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

(26 members)

Members elected on 22 April 1996, for a four-year term, by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session

Marc Bossuyt (Belgium)
    Alternate: Guy Genot (Belgium)

Volodymyr Boutkevitch (Ukraine)
    Alternate: Olexandre Kouptchichine (Ukraine)

Asbjorn Eide (Norway)
    Alternate: Jan Helgesen (Norway)

Ribot Hatano (Japan)
    Alternate: Yozo Yokota (Japan)

Ahmed M. Khalifa (Egypt)
    Alternate: Ahmed Khalil (Egypt)

Miguel J. Alfonso Martinez (Cuba)
    Alternate: Marianela Ferriol Echevarria (Cuba)

Ioan Maxim (Romania)
    Alternate: Petru Pavel Gavrilescu (Romania)

Mustapha Mehedi (Algeria)

Sang Yong Park (Republic of Korea)

Clemencia Forero Ucros (Colombia)
    Alternate: Jorge Orlando Melo (Colombia)

Halima Embarek Warzazi (Morocco)
    Alternate: Mohamad Benkaddour (Morocco)

David Weissbrodt (United States of America)
    Alternate: Robert J. Portman (United States of America)

Fisseha Yimer (Ethiopia)

Members elected on 6 April 1998, for a four-year term by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fourth session

José Bengoa (Chile)

Erica-Irene A. Daes (Greece)
    Alternate: Kalliopi Koufa (Greece)

Fan Guoxiang (China)
    Alternate: Zhong Shukong (China)

Héctor Fix-Zamudio (Mexico)
    Alternate: Alfonso Gomez-Robledo Vaduzco (Mexico)

Rajenda Kalidas Wimala Goonesekere (Sri Lanka)
    Alternate: Deepika Udagama (Sri Lanka)

El-Hadji Guissé (Senegal)

Françoise Jane Hampson (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
    Alternate: Helena Cook (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Louis Joinet (France)
    Alternate: Emmanuel Decaux (France)

Joseph Oloka-Onyango (Uganda)

Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro (Brazil)
    Alternate: Marília S. Zelner Gonçalves (Brazil)

Teimuraz O. Ramishvili (Russian Federation)
    Alternate: Vladimir Kartashkin (Russian Federation)

Yeung Kam Yeung Sik Yuen (Mauritius)

Soli Jehangir Sorabjee (India)

Commission on the Status of Women

(45 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*	*Term expires on 31 December*
Angola	Belgium	2002
Belgium	Bolivia	2001
Bolivia	Brazil	1999
Brazil	Burundi	2002
Bulgaria	Chile	1999
Chile	China	1999
China	Côte d'Ivoire	2001
Congo	Cuba	2001
Côte d'Ivoire	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2002
Cuba	Dominican Republic	1999
Dominican Republic	Egypt	2002
Ethiopia	Ethiopia	2000
France	France	2000
Germany	Germany	2000
Ghana	Ghana	2000
Greece	India	2001
India	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2001
Indonesia	Italy	2002
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Japan	2000
Japan	Lebanon	1999
Lebanon	Lesotho	2001
Lesotho	Lithuania	2002
Malaysia	Malaysia	2001
Mali	Mali	1999
Mexico	Mexico	2002
Morocco	Mongolia	2002
Norway	Morocco	2000
Paraguay	Norway	1999
Peru	Paraguay	2000
Philippines	Peru	2000
Poland	Poland	2000
Portugal	Republic of Korea	2001
Republic of Korea	Russian Federation	2002
Russian Federation	Rwanda	2001
Rwanda	Saint Lucia	2001
Saint Lucia	Senegal	2002
Slovakia	Slovakia	1999
Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	2001
Sudan	Sudan	2001

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*	*Term expires on 31 December*
Swaziland	Swaziland	1999
Thailand	Thailand	2000
Togo	Turkey	2002
Uganda	Uganda	2001
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
United States of America	United States of America	1999

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

(53 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1998 and 1999	*Term expires on 31 December*
Algeria	1999
Australia	2001
Bolivia	1999
Brazil	1999
Bulgaria	1999
Canada	1999
Chile	2001
China	2001
Colombia	2001
Côte d'Ivoire	2001
Cuba	1999
Czech Republic	1999
Ecuador	1999
Egypt	1999
France	1999
Germany	1999
Ghana	2001
Greece	1999
India	1999
Indonesia	1999
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1999
Italy	1999
Jamaica	1999
Japan	2001
Lao People's Democratic Republic	2001
Lebanon	2001
Malaysia	1999
Mauritius	2001
Mexico	2001
Morocco	1999
Netherlands	1999
Nigeria	1999
Pakistan	1999
Poland	1999
Portugal	1999
Republic of Korea	1999
Romania	2001
Russian Federation	2001
Sierra Leone	2001

Membership in 1998 and 1999	*Term expires on 31 December*
South Africa	1999
Spain	2001
Sudan	1999
Sweden	1999
Switzerland	2001
Syrian Arab Republic	1999
Thailand	1999
Tunisia	1999
Turkey	2001
Ukraine	2001
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2001
United States of America	1999
Uruguay	2001
Venezuela	1999

Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East

Members

Afghanistan
Azerbaijan
Bahrain
Egypt
India
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Lebanon
Oman
Pakistan
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Syrian Arab Republic
Tajikistan
Turkey
Turkmenistan
United Arab Emirates
Uzbekistan
Yemen

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

(40 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1998 and 1999	*Term expires on 31 December*
Austria	1999
Argentina	2000
Benin	2000
Bolivia	1999
Botswana	2000
Brazil	2000
China	2000
Colombia	1999
Costa Rica	2000
Côte d'Ivoire	2000
Ecuador	2000
Egypt	1999
Fiji	1999
France	2000
Gambia	1999
Germany	2000
India	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2000
Italy	2000
Jamaica	1999
Japan	1999
Lesotho	1999
Malawi	1999
Mexico	2000
Netherlands	1999
Pakistan	1999
Philippines	1999
Poland	2000
Republic of Korea	2000
Romania	2000
Russian Federation	1999
Saudi Arabia	2000
Sudan	1999
Swaziland	1999
Sweden	1999
Togo	2000
Tunisia	1999
Ukraine	1999
United States of America	2000
Zambia	1999

Commission on Science and Technology for Development

(53 members)

Membership in 1998[d,e]

Angola
Austria
Bahamas
Belarus
Belgium
Benin
Bolivia
Brazil
Bulgaria
Cameroon
China
Colombia
Costa Rica
Côte d'Ivoire
Cuba
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Ethiopia
Germany
Ghana
Guinea
India
Jamaica
Malawi
Malta
Namibia
Netherlands
Pakistan
Panama
Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Romania
Russian Federation
Slovakia
Tunisia
Uganda
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
Uruguay
Venezuela

Commission on Sustainable Development

(53 members; three-year term)

Membership of sixth session	*Membership as of seventh session*	*Term expires at close of session in the year*
Algeria	Algeria	2000
Antigua and Barbuda	Angola	2002
Belgium	Belgium	2002
Benin	Brazil	2000
Bolivia	Bulgaria	1999
Brazil	Cameroon	2002
Bulgaria	Canada	1999
Canada	China	2002
Central African Republic	Colombia	2002
China	Côte d'Ivoire	2000
Colombia	Cuba	2002
Côte d'Ivoire	Czech Republic	2000
Czech Republic	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2000
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Democratic Republic of the Congo	2002
Djibouti	Denmark	2002
Egypt	Djibouti	1999
Finland[f]	Egypt	1999
France	France	2000
Gabon	Germany	2002
Germany	Guyana	2002
Guyana	Hungary	2000
Hungary	India	1999
India	Indonesia	1999
Indonesia	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Ireland	1999
Ireland	Italy	2002
Japan	Japan	1999
Mauritania	Kazakhstan	2002
Mauritius	Lebanon	2002
Mexico	Mauritania	2000
Mozambique	Mauritius	2000
Netherlands	Mexico	1999
New Zealand	Mozambique	2002
Nicaragua	Netherlands	2002
Niger	New Zealand	2000
Pakistan	Nicagarua	2000
Panama	Niger	1999
Peru	Panama	1999

Membership of sixth session	*Membership as of seventh session*	*Term expires at close of session in the year*
Philippines	Paraguay	2002
Poland	Peru	2000
Portugal	Philippines	2000
Russian Federation	Portugal	2000
Saudi Arabia	Republic of Korea	2002
Slovakia	Russian Federation	2002
Spain	Slovakia	1999
Sri Lanka	Spain	2000
Sudan	Sri Lanka	2000
Switzerland	Sudan	1999
Thailand	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2002
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Tunisia	2002
United States of America	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1999
Venezuela	United States of America	1999
Zimbabwe	Venezuela	1999

Regional commissions

Economic Commission for Africa

Members

Algeria
Angola
Benin
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Comoros
Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Djibouti
Egypt
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Gabon
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
Sudan
Swaziland
Togo
Tunisia
Uganda
United Republic of Tanzania
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Switzerland participates in a consultative capacity in the work of the Commission by virtue of Council resolution 925 (XXXIV) of 6 July 1962.

Economic Commission for Europe

Members

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Canada
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Monaco
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
San Marino
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Tajikistan
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uzbekistan
Yugoslavia[g]

The Holy See participates in the work of the Commission in accordance with Commission decision N (XXXI) of 5 April 1976.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Members

Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Bahamas
Barbados
Belize
Bolivia
Brazil
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
El Salvador
France
Grenada
Guatemala
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Italy
Jamaica
Mexico
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Portugal
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Spain
Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela

Associate members

Aruba
British Virgin Islands
Montserrat
Netherlands Antilles
Puerto Rico
United States Virgin Islands

Germany and Switzerland participate in a consultative capacity in the work of the Commission by virtue of Council resolutions 632 (XXII) of 19 December 1956 and 861 (XXXII) of 21 December 1961, respectively.

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Members

Afghanistan
Armenia
Australia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
China
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Fiji
France
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kiribati
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Malaysia
Maldives
Marshall Islands
Micronesia (Federated States of)
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Pakistan
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Samoa
Singapore
Solomon Islands
Sri Lanka
Tajikistan
Thailand
Tonga
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uzbekistan
Vanuatu
Viet Nam

Associate members

American Samoa
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Cook Islands
French Polynesia
Guam
Hong Kong, China
Macau
New Caledonia
Niue

Switzerland participates in a consultative capacity in the work of the Commission by virtue of Council resolution 860 (XXXII) of 21 December 1961

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Members

Bahrain
Egypt
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Oman
Palestine
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Syrian Arab Republic
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

Standing committees

Committee for Programme and Coordination

(34 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999**	*Term expires on 31 December*
Argentina	Argentina	1999
Austria	Austria	1999
Bahamas	Bahamas	2000
Brazil	Brazil	1999
Cameroon	Cameroon	1999
China	Congo	1999
Congo	France	2000
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Germany	1999
Egypt	Indonesia	1999
France	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1999
Germany	Italy	1999
Indonesia	Mexico	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Nicaragua	1999
Italy	Nigeria	1999
Japan	Pakistan	1999
Mexico	Poland	1999
Nicaragua	Romania	1999
Nigeria	Russian Federation	2000
Pakistan	Thailand	1999
Poland	Trinidad and Tobago	1999
Republic of Korea	Uganda	2000
Romania	Ukraine	1999
Russian Federation	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1999
Thailand	United States of America	2000
Togo	Zambia	2000
Trinidad and Tobago	Zimbabwe	1999
Uganda		
Ukraine		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		
United States of America		
Uruguay		
Zambia		
Zimbabwe		

Commission on Human Settlements

(58 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*	*Term expires on 31 December*
Algeria	Algeria	1999
Bangladesh	Argentina	2002
Barbados	Bangladesh	2000
Belarus	Barbados	1999
Belgium	Belarus	2000
Benin	Belgium	2000
Brazil	Benin	1999
Bulgaria	Bolivia	2002
Cameroon	Brazil	2002
Chile	Bulgaria	1999
China	Cameroon	2002
Colombia	Chile	2002
Costa Rica	China	2000
Czech Republic	Colombia	1999
Denmark	Czech Republic	1999
Dominican Republic	Democratic Republic of the Congo	2002
Ecuador	Denmark	1999
Ethiopia	Ecuador	2000
Finland	Ethiopia	2000
France	Finland	2002
Gabon	France	2000
Gambia	Gabon	2002
Germany	Germany	1999
India	India	1999
Indonesia	Indonesia	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2002
Italy	Italy	2000
Jamaica	Jamaica	2000
Japan	Japan	2002
Jordan	Jordan	1999
Kazakhstan	Kenya	1999
Kenya	Liberia	2000
Liberia	Lithuania	2002
Malawi	Malawi	2000
Mexico	Mali	2002
Namibia	Mexico	1999
Netherlands	Namibia	2000
Nigeria	Netherlands	2000

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*	*Term expires on 31 December*
Norway	Norway	1999
Pakistan	Pakistan	2002
Philippines	Philippines	1999
Poland	Poland	2000
Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea	2000
Romania	Russian Federation	2002
Russian Federation	Spain	1999
Spain	Sri Lanka	1999
Sri Lanka	Sudan	1999
Sudan	Sweden	2000
Sweden	Tunisia	1999
Tunisia	Turkey	2002
Turkey	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2002
Uganda	United Arab Emirates	1999
United Arab Emirates	United States of America	2002
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Venezuela	2000
United States of America	Viet Nam	2002
Venezuela	Zambia	2000
Zambia		
Zimbabwe		

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

(19 members)

Members elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999[j]

Algeria
Bolivia
Chile
China
Colombia
Cuba
Ethiopia
France
India
Ireland
Lebanon
Pakistan
Romania
Russian Federation
Sudan
Tunisia
Turkey
United States of America

Expert bodies

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

(34 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1998 and 1999[a]	*Term expires on 31 December*
Argentina	1999
Benin	2000
Brazil	2000
Bulgaria	2000
Cameroon	2000
China	1999
Comoros	2000
Costa Rica	2000
Cyprus	2000
France	1999
Gabon	1999
Gambia	1999
Germany	1999
Hungary	2000
India	2000
Italy	1999
Jamaica	2000
Jordan	2000
Kenya	1999
Lebanon	1999
Malawi	1999
Namibia	1999
Netherlands	1999
Pakistan	2000
Panama	1999
Portugal	1999
Russian Federation	1999
Sierra Leone	2000
Spain	1999
Sweden	1999
Switzerland	1999
Thailand	1999
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1999

Committee for Development Planning

Members appointed by the Economic and Social Council, on the nomination of the Secretary-General, for a term expiring on 31 December 1998[l,m]

Maria Agusztinovics (Hungary)
Bionisio Dias Carnerio-Netto (Brazil)
Makhtar Diouf (Senegal)
E. El-Hinnawi (Egypt)
Just Faaland (Norway)
Gao Shangquan (China)
Patrick Guillaumont (France)
Ryokichi Hirono (Japan)
Nurul Isiam (Bangladesh)
Taher Kanaan (Jordan)
Louka T. Katseli (Greece)
Linda Lim (Singapore)
Nguyuru H. I. Lipumba (United Republic of Tanzania)
Nora Lustig (Argentina/Mexico)
Solita C. Monsod (Philippines)
Bishnodat Persaud (Guyana)
Akilagpa Sawyerr (Ghana)
Klaus Schwab (Germany)
Arjun Sengupta (India)
Alexandre Shokhin (Russian Federation)
Frances Stewart (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
Lance Taylor (United States of America)
Alvaro Umaña
Miguel Urrutia (Colombia)

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
(18 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Term expires on 31 December*
Ade Adekuoye (Nigeria)	1998
Mahmoud Samir Ahmed (Egypt)	1998
Philip Alston (Australia)	1998
Ivan Antanovich (Belarus)	2000
Virginia Bonoan-Dandan (Philippines)	1998
Dumitru Ceausu (Romania)	2000
Oscar Ceville (Panama)	2000
Abdessatar Grissa (Tunisia)	2000
Maria de los Angeles Jiménez Butragueño (Spain)	2000
Valeri I. Kouznetsov (Russian Federation)	1998
Jaime Alberto Marchan Romero (Ecuador)	1998
Ariranga Govindasamy Pillay (Mauritius)	2000
Kenneth Osborne Rattray (Jamaica)	2000
Eibe Riedel (Germany)	1998
Walid M. Sa'di (Jordan)	2000
Philippe Texier (France)	2000
Nutan Thapalia (Nepal)	1998
Javier Wimer Zambrano (Mexico)	1998

Membership in 1999	*Term expires on 31 December*
Mahmoud Samir Ahmed (Egypt)	2002
Ivan Antanovich (Belarus)	2000
Clement Atangana (Cameroon)	2002
Virginia Bonoan-Dandan (Philippines)	2002
Dumitru Ceausu (Romania)	2000
Oscar Ceville (Panama)	2000
Abdessatar Grissa (Tunisia)	2000
Paul Hunt (New Zealand)	2002
Maria de los Angeles Jiménez Butragueño (Spain)	2000
Valeri I. Kouznetsov (Russian Federation)	2002
Jaime Marchan Romero (Ecuador)	2002
Ariranga Govindasamy Pillay (Mauritius)	2000
Kenneth Osborne Rattray (Jamaica)	2000
Eibe Riedel (Germany)	2002
Walid M. Sa'di (Jordan)	2000
Philippe Texier (France)	2000
Nutan Thapalia (Nepal)	2002
Javier Wimer Zambrano (Mexico)	2002

Committee on Natural Resources

(24 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1998[n, o]

Gustavo Alvarez (Uruguay)
Denis Davis (Canada)
Vladislav M. Dolgopolov (Russian Federation)
Malin Falkenmark (Sweden)
Siripong Hungspreug (Thailand)
Adel Jalili (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Owen MacDonald Kankhulungo (Malawi)
Mohammad Nawaz Khan (Pakistan)
Li Yuwei (China)
Jesús Martíez Frías (Spain)
Wafik Meshref (Egypt)
Hendrik Martinus Oudshoorn (Netherlands)
Neculai Pavlovschi (Romania)
María Luisa Reyna de Aguilar (El Salvador)
Karlheinz Rieck (Germany)
Carlos A. Salvídar (Paraguay)
Manuel Carlos Serrano Pinto (Portugal)
Eddy Kofi Smith (Ghana)
Carlos G. Tomboc (Philippines)
Carmen Luisa Velásquez de Visbal (Venezuela)
Kenya
Nigeria
Zambia

Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development

(24 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1998[p][o]

Félix L. Campos Mejivar (El Salvador)
Johannes Tonderayi Chigwada (Zimbabwe)
Bernard Devin (France)
José María Gamio Cia (Uruguay)
Zhang Guocheng (China)
Paul-Georg Gutermuth (Germany)
Wolfgang Hein (Austria)
Jón Ingimarsson (Iceland)
Ahmad Kahrobaian (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Choon-Ho Kim (Republic of Korea)
William Michael Mebane (Italy)
Daniel F. Pérez Fernández-Ravetti (Paraguay)
Eduardo Praselj (Venezuela)
E. V. R. Sastry (India)
Wilhelmus Turkenburg (Netherlands)
Dimitri B. Volfberg (Russian Federation)
Qatar

Related bodies

Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund

(36 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*	*Term expires on 31 December*
Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda	2000
Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan	2000
Bangladesh	Bangladesh	2000
Belgium	Belgium	1999
Cape Verde	Canada	2001
China	Cape Verde	1999
Comoros	China	2001
Congo	Comoros	2000
Cuba	Congo	2000
Czech Republic	Czech Republic	1999
Finland	Denmark	2001
France	Finland	2000
Germany	France	2001
Greece	Germany	1999
Indonesia	Greece	1999
Jamaica	Guyana	2001
Japan	Indonesia	1999
Kazakhstan	Jamaica	1999
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Japan	2000
Namibia	Kazakhstan	2000
New Zealand	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	2000
Nicaragua	Nicaragua	1999
Nigeria	Nigeria	1999
Norway	Norway	2000
Oman	Oman	1999
Russian Federation	Pakistan	2001
South Africa	Paraguay	2001
Sudan	Russian Federation	2001
Suriname	South Africa	2000
Sweden	Sudan	2000
Switzerland	Switzerland	2001
Ukraine	Ukraine	2001
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
United States of America	United States of America	1999
Viet Nam	Yemen	2000
Yemen	Zimbabwe	2001

Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

(53 members)

Algeria
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Bangladesh
Belgium
Brazil
Canada
China
Colombia
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Denmark
Ethiopia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Holy See
Hungary
India
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Lebanon
Lesotho
Madagascar
Morocco
Namibia
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Pakistan
Philippines
Poland
Russian Federation
Somalia
South Africa
Spain
Sudan
Sweden
Switzerland
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
Uganda
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Venezuela
Yugoslavia

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund

(36 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*[a]	*Term expires on 31 December*
Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda	1999
Argentina	Austria	1999
Australia	Belarus	2001
Austria	Botswana	2000
Belize	Brazil	1999
Botswana	Canada	2001
Brazil	China	2000
Canada	Cuba	2001
China	Czech Republic	2000
Czech Republic	Democratic Republic of the Congo	2000
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Denmark	2000
Denmark	Ethiopia	2001
France	Germany	2000
Ghana	Ghana	2000
Guinea	Guatemala	2001
India	Guinea	1999
Ireland	India	2001
Jamaica	Ireland	2000
Japan	Italy	2001
Lebanon	Jamaica	2000
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Japan	1999
Madagascar	Kyrgyzstan	2001
Malaysia	Lebanon	2000
Netherlands	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	1999
Norway	Pakistan	1999
Pakistan	Republic of Korea	2000
Republic of Korea	Russian Federation	1999
Romania	South Africa	2000
Russian Federation	Spain	2000
South Africa	Switzerland	2001
Spain	Sweden	1999
Thailand	Thailand	1999
Ukraine	Ukraine	2001
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1999
United Republic of Tanzania	United Republic of Tanzania	2000
United States of America	United States of America	2001

Executive Board of the World Food Programme[f]

(36 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1998

Members elected by the Economic and Social Council	*Term expires on 31 December*	*Members elected by the FAO Council*	*Term expires on 31 December*
Angola	1999	Algeria	1998
Belgium	1999	Australia	1999
Cameroon	1998	Bangladesh	2000
Denmark	1998	Brazil	1999
Ethiopia	1999	Burundi	2000
Finland	2000	Canada	1998
India	1998	China	1998
Indonesia	2000	Cuba	1998
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1999	El Salvador	2000
Japan	1999	Germany	1998
Mexico	1999	Jordan	1999
Norway	2000	Netherlands	2000
Pakistan	2000	Nigeria	1998
Paraguay	1998	Saudi Arabia	2000
Russian Federation	2000	Senegal	1999
Sierra Leone	2000	Slovakia	1999
Sweden	1998	Switzerland	1999
Tunisia	1998	United States of America	2000

Membership in 1999

Members elected by the Economic and Social Council[a]	*Term expires on 31 December*	*Members elected by the FAO Council*[b]	*Term expires on 31 December*
Angola	1999	Australia	1999
Belgium	1999	Bangladesh	2000
Congo	2001	Brazil	1999
Denmark	2001	Burundi	2000
Ethiopia	1999	El Salvador	2000
Finland	2000	Jordan	1999
Haiti	2001	Netherlands	2000
Indonesia	2000	Saudi Arabia	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1999	Senegal	1999
Japan	1999	Slovakia	1999
Mexico	1999	Switzerland	1999
Morocco	2001	United States of America	2000
Pakistan	2000		
Russian Federation	2000		
Sierra Leone	2000		
Sweden	2001		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000		
Yemen	2001		

International Narcotics Control Board

Members elected by the Economic and Social Council to serve on the Board as constituted under the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961

Membership from 2 March 1997	*Term expires on 1 March*
Edward A. Babayan (Russian Federation)	2000
C. Chakrabarty (India)	2002
Nelia P. Cortes-Maramba (Philippines)	2002
Jacques Franquet (France)	2002
Abdol-Hamid Ghodse (Islamic Republic of Iran)	2002
Alfonso Gomez Méndez (Colombia)	2002
Dil Jan Khan (Pakistan)	2002
Mohamed A. Mansour (Egypt)	2000
António Lourenco Martins (Portugal)	2000
Herbert S. Okun (United States of America)	2002
Alfredo Pemjean (Chile)	2000
Oskar Schroeder (Germany)	2000
Elba Torres Graterol (Venezuela)	2000

Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

(11 members; three-year term)

Membership as at 1 July 1998	*Term expires on 30 June*
Selma Acuner (Turkey)	2000
Esther Maria Ashton (Bolivia)	2001
Zakia Amara Bouaziz (Tunisia)	2000
Maria Jonas (Austria)	1999
Noëlie Kangoye (Burkina Faso)	1999
Mona Chemali Khalaf (Lebanon)	1999
Norica Nicolai (Romania)	2000
Mamosebi Theresia Pholo (Lesotho)	2001
Glenda P. Simms (Jamaica)	2000
Amaryllis T. Torres (Philippines)	2000
Cecilia Valcarcel Alcázar (Spain)	2001

Committee for the United Nations Population Award[u]

Members elected for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1998[v]

Cape Verde[w]
El Salvador
Grenada[w]
Guatemala
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Lesotho[w]
Netherlands
Romania[x]
Thailand

Programme Coordination Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

(22 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1998	*Membership in 1999*[a]	*Term expires on 31 December*
Algeria	Algeria	2000
Australia	Australia	1999
Barbados	Barbados	2000
Belgium	Belgium	2000
China	Brazil	2001
Congo	China	2000
Côte d'Ivoire	Côte d'Ivoire	1999
Denmark	Finland	1999
Germany	Germany	2001
India	India	2001
Japan	Japan	2000
Mexico	Mexico	1999
Pakistan	Poland	2000
Paraguay	Russian Federation	2001
Poland	South Africa	2000
Russian Federation	Spain	2001
South Africa	Switzerland	2000
Switzerland	Thailand	1999
Thailand	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
Uganda		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		
United States of America		

Notes

[a] The remaining 18 seats are to be filled by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

[b] The Council postponed to a future session the election of two members from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000 and one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001 (decision 1998/202 B).

[c] The Council postponed to a future session the election of three members from African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999 (decision 1998/202 B).

[d] At its resumed organizational session for 1998, the Council postponed to a future session the election of six members from Asian States and six members from Western European and other States (decision 1998/202 B).

[e] At its substantive session of 1998, the Council decided to terminate the current membership of the Commission as of 31 December 1998 (resolution 1998/47). Elections to the Commission, whose membership is to be reduced from 53 to 33 (see Council resolution 1998/46, annex I), will be held at the resumed substantive session of 1998.

[f] At the 47th meeting, on 31 July 1998, the Council elected Finland for a term beginning on the date of election to complete the term of Sweden (decision 1998/202 C).

[g] By decision 1993/316, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should not participate in the work of the Economic Commission for Europe as long as the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) did not participate in the work of the General Assembly.

[h] The remaining members are to be elected by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on the nomination of the Economic and Social Council. At its 5th meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Council nominated six Member States for election to the Committee and postponed to a future session the nomination of one member from African States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999 and of one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999 (decision 1998/202 B).

[i] The Council postponed to a future session the election of two members from African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999 (decision 1998/202 B).

[j] The Council postponed to a future session the election of one member from African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999 (decision 1998/202 B).

[k] The Council postponed to a future session the election of one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999 (decision 1998/202 B).

[l] At its resumed substantive session of 1997, the Council decided to extend the term of the members of the Committee by one year, beginning on 1 January 1998 (decision 1997/212 C).

[m] In accordance with Council resolution 1998/47 of 31 July 1998, the current membership of the Committee is to be terminated as of 31 December 1998. The Committee is to be renamed the Committee for Development Policy (Council resolution 1998/46, annex I). The members of the new Committee will be nominated by the Secretary-General, and will be approved by the Council at its resumed substantive session of 1998.

[n] At its resumed organizational session for 1996, the Council decided that Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, the Netherlands, Nigeria and Zambia would nominate experts for a term beginning on 1 January 1997 (decision 1996/222). Egypt, Ghana, Malawi and the Netherlands subsequently nominated experts. At the 5th meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Council postponed to a future session the election of one expert from Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election (see decision 1998/202 B).

[o] In accordance with Council resolution 1998/47 of 31 July 1998, the current membership of the Committee is to be terminated as of 31 December 1998. The Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development are to be merged into a single expert body to be named the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development (Council resolution 1998/46, annex I). The members of the new Committee will be elected by the Council at its resumed substantive session of 1998.

[p] The previous sessions, the Council had decided that the Netherlands would nominate an expert for a term beginning on 1 January 1997 (decision 1996/222) and that Qatar would nominate an expert for a

term beginning on the date of election (decision 1997/212 B). The Netherlands subsequently nominated an expert. At the 5th meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Council postponed to a future session the election of five experts from African States and two experts from Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election (see decision 1998/202 B).

[q] At its 5th meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Council elected Germany for a two-year term beginning on 1 January 1999 to complete the term of France; and Sweden for a one-year term beginning on 1 January 1999 to complete the term of Norway (decision 1998/202 B).

[r] By resolution 50/8 of 1 November 1995, the General Assembly decided, subject to the concurrence of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, that the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes should be reconstituted as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme, with 36 members elected from among the States Members of the United Nations or the States members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and that the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should elect 18 members each, according to the pattern set out in the resolution. The members of the Executive Board are elected from five lists set out in the Basic Texts of the World Food Programme and reproduced in document E/1998/L.1/Add.4.

[s] At the 5th meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Council elected the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for a two-year term beginning on 1 January 1999 to complete the term of Norway (decision 1998/202 B).

[t] The remaining six seats are to be filled by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its session to be held in November 1998.

[u] For the regulations governing the Award, see General Assembly resolution 36/201 and decision 41/445.

[v] The Council postponed to a future session the election of one member from African States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000 (decision 1998/202 B).

[w] Elected at the 5th meeting, on 7 May 1998 (decision 1998/202 B).

[x] Elected at the 2nd meeting, on 3 February 1998 (decision 1998/202 A).

[y] At the 5th meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Council elected Finland for a one-year term beginning on 1 January 1999 to complete the term of Denmark. The Council postponed to a future session the election of two members from African States and one member from Asian States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Annex III

Intergovernmental organizations designated by the Council under rule 79 of the rules of procedure[a] for participation in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of their activities

Organizations accorded permanent observer status by the General Assembly

Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (General Assembly resolution 36/4)

African Development Bank (General Assembly resolution 42/10)

Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation (General Assembly resolution 33/18)

Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (General Assembly resolution 43/6)

Andean Community (General Assembly resolution 52/6)

Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee (General Assembly resolution 35/2)

Caribbean Community (General Assembly resolution 46/8)

Central American Integration System (General Assembly resolution 50/2)

Commonwealth of Independent States (General Assembly resolution 48/237)

Commonwealth Secretariat (General Assembly resolution 31/3)

Council of Europe (General Assembly resolution 44/6)

Economic Cooperation Organization (General Assembly resolution 48/2)

European Community (General Assembly resolution 3208 (XXIX))

International Committee of the Red Cross (General Assembly resolution 45/6)

International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) (General Assembly resolution 51/1)

International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (General Assembly resolution 49/2)

International Organization for Migration (General Assembly resolution 47/4)

International Seabed Authority (General Assembly resolution 51/6)

International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (General Assembly resolution 51/204)

Latin American Economic System (SELA) (General Assembly resolution 35/3)

Latin American Parliament (General Assembly resolution 48/4)

League of Arab States (General Assembly resolution 477 (V))

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (General Assembly resolution 48/5)

Organization of African Unity (General Assembly resolution 2011 (XX))

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[a] The text of rule 79, entitled "Participation of other intergovernmental organizations" reads: "Representatives of intergovernmental organizations accorded permanent observer status by the General Assembly and of other intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Council on the recommendation of the Bureau may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations".

Organization of American States (General Assembly resolution 253 (III))

Organization of the Islamic Conference (General Assembly resolution 3369 (XXX))

Permanent Court of Arbitration (General Assembly resolution 48/3)

South Pacific Forum (General Assembly resolution 49/1)

Sovereign Military Order of Malta (General Assembly resolution 48/265)

Organizations designated by the Economic and Social Council

Participation on a continuing basis

African Regional Centre for Technology (Council decision 1980/151)

Asian Productivity Organization (APO) (Council decision 1980/114)

Council of Arab Economic Unity (Council decision 109 (LIX))

International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (Council decision 1997/215)

International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries (ICPE) (Council decision 1980/114)

Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) (Council decision 1980/114)

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (Council decision 109 (LXX))

Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (Council decision 1986/156)

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Council decision 109 (LIX))

Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (Council decision 1992/265)

Union of Economic and Social Councils of Africa (Council decision 1996/225)

World Tourism Organization (Council decision 109 (LIX))

Participation on an ad hoc basis

African Accounting Council (Council decision 1987/161)

African Cultural Institute (Council decision 1987/161)

Arab Security Studies and Training Centre (Council decision 1989/165)

Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior (Council decision 1987/161)

Customs Cooperation Council (Council decision 1989/165)

International Bauxite Association (Council decision 1987/161)

International Civil Defence Organization (Council decision 109 (LIX))

Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (Council decision 239 (LXII))